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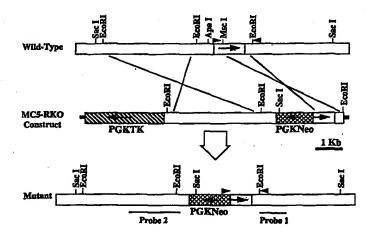
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(57) Abstract

This invention provides methods and reagents for developing naturally—occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor, and the use of such agonists and antagonists for treatment and alleviation of dysfunction and disease. The invention specifically provides reagents and methods for developing naturally—occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor termed MC5–R. The naturally—occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5–R receptor are provided by the invention for the treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invetion are nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal bearing a genetically—disrupted endogenous M5C–R melanocortin receptor, in both the heterozygous and homozygous condition, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Rodents bearing genetically disrupted MC5–R genes homozygously, termed "gene knockout" rodents in the art, are also advantageously provided.

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MAMMALIAN MELANOCORTIN RECEPTORS AND USES

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

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This invention relates to melanocortin receptors from mammalian species and the genes corresponding to such receptors. Specifically, the invention relates to the use of mammalian melanocortin receptors for the development of naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor, and the use of such agonists and antagonists for treatment and alleviation of dysfunction and disease. Specifically, the invention relates to development of naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for a mammalian melanocortin receptor termed MC5-R (see U.S. Patent No. 5,622,860, incorporated by reference). Such naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5-R receptor are provided for the treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invention are nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal having homozygous disruption of both endogenous MC5-R melanocortin receptors, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Such rodents, termed "gene knockout" rodents in the art, are also advantageously provided.

2. Background of the Invention

The proopiomelanocortin (POMC) gene product is processed to produce a large number of biologically active peptides. Two of these peptides, α -melanocyte stimulating hormone (α MSH), and adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) have well-understood roles in control of melanocyte and adrenocortical function, respectively. Both of these hormones are also found in a variety of forms with unknown functions,

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for example, γ-melanocyte stimulating hormone (γMSH), which has little or no ability to stimulate pigmentation (Ling et al., 1979, Life Sci. 25: 1773-1780; Slominski et al., 1992, Life Sci. 50: 1103-1108). A melanocortin receptor gene specific for each of the αMSH, ACTH and γMSH hormones has been discovered by some of the present inventors (see U.S. Patent Nos. 5,280,112 and 5,532,347 and U.S. Application Serial No. 08/044,812, incorporated by reference herein). In addition, two other melanocortin receptor genes have been discovered by some of the present inventors (see Lu et al, 1994, Nature 371: 799-802, Mountjoy et al., 1994, Molec. Endocrinol. 8: 1298-1308) and others (see U.S. Patent No. 5,622,860; Gantz et al., 1993, J Biol. Chem. 268: 15174-15179 and Labbe et al., 1994, Biochem. 33: 4543-4549). Thus far, the biological activities of the melanocortin peptides appear to be mediated by a family of five G protein coupled receptors (see Cone, 1996 for a review).

Along with the well-recognized activities of α MSH in melanocytes and ACTH in adrenal and pituitary glands, the melanocortin peptides also have a diverse array of biological activities in other tissues, including the brain and immune system, and bind to specific receptors in these tissues with a distinct pharmacology (see Hanneman et al., in Peptide Hormone as Prohormones, G. Martinez, ed. (Ellis Horwood Ltd.: Chichester, UK) pp. 53-82; DeWied & Jolles, 1982, Physiol. Rev. 62: 976-1059 for reviews). For example, POMC neurons are present in only two regions of the brain, the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus, and the nucleus of the solitary tract of the brain stem. Neurons from both sites project to a number of hypothalamic nuclei, including the paraventricular nucleus, lateral hypothalamic area, and ventromedial hypothalamic nucleus. A complete understanding of these peptides and their diverse biological activities requires the isolation and characterization of their corresponding receptors. Some biochemical studies have been reported in the prior art.

Shimuze, 1985, *Yale J. Biol. Med.* 58: 561-570 discusses the physiology of melanocyte stimulating hormone.

Tatro & Reichlin, 1987, Endocrinology 121: 1900-1907 disclose that MSH receptors are widely distributed in rodent tissues.

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Sola et al., 1989, J Biol. Chem. 264: 14277-14280 disclose the molecular weight characterization of mouse and human MSH receptors linked to radioactively and photoaffinity labeled MSH analogues.

Siegrist et al., 1991, J Receptor Res. 11: 323-331 disclose the quantification of receptors on mouse melanoma tissue by receptor autoradiography.

Cone & Mountjoy, U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, issued July 2, 1996, disclose the isolation of human and mouse α -MSH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

Cone & Mountjoy, U.S. Patent No. 5,280,112, issued January 18, 1994, disclose the isolation of human and bovine ACTH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

Mountjoy et al., 1992, Science 257: 1248-1251 disclose the isolation of cDNAs encoding mammalian ACTH and MSH receptor proteins.

Cone et al., U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812, filed April 8, 1993, disclose the isolation of rat γ -MSH receptor genes and uses thereof (incorporated herein by reference).

The distribution of expression of the known melanocortin receptors has largely fit expectations regarding the known biological activities of the melanocortin peptide ligands encoded by the POMC gene. The MC1-R, or classical MSH receptor, is expressed almost exclusively in melanocytes (Chhajlani and Wikberg, 1992, FEBS Lett. 309: 417-420; Mountjoy et al., 1992, ibid.), where it regulates melanin synthesis. The MC2-R, or classical ACTH receptor, is expressed primarily in the adrenal cortex (Mountjoy et al., 1992, ibid.), where it regulates adrenocortical steroidogenesis (although this receptor is also expressed in adipocytes, explaining the ability of ACTH to stimulate lipolysis). The MC3-R and MC4-R are expressed mainly in the central nervous system in regions that are well-correlated with presumptive terminal fields originating from the two groups of POMC cell bodies in the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus and the nucleus of the solitary tract of the brainstem (Mountjoy et al., 1994, ibid.; Roselli-Rehfuss et al., 1993, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90: 8856-8860). Recently, it has been shown that MC3-R and MC4-R regulate feeding behavior and metabolism (Fan et al., 1997, Nature 385: 165-168; Huszar et

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al., 1997, Cell 88: 131-141), grooming behavior (Adan et al., 1994), body temperatures (Tatro et al., 1990, Cancer Res. 50: 1237-1242), and cardiovascular tone (Li et al., 1996, J. Neurosci. 16: 5182-5188); see also U.S. patent application 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996 and incorporated by reference herein.

Numerous peripheral effects of POMC peptides have been reported. For example, removal of the neurointermediate lobe of the pituitary (which produces the POMC peptides) was demonstrated to decrease sebaceous lipid production (Thody and Shuster, 1973, Nature 245: 207-209). The reduction was fully restored by concomitant α-MSH and androgen administration (Ebling et al., 1975, J. Endocrinol. 66: 407-412). The lipid content of the preputial gland (a specialized sebaceous gland implicated in pheromone production in rodents; Bronson and Caroom, 1971, J. Reprod. Fertil. 25: 279-282; Chipman and Alberecht, 1974, J. Reprod. Fertil. 38: 91-96; Orsulak and Gawienowski, 1972, Biol. Reproduc. 6: 219-223) has been shown to be stimulated by α -MSH. Injection of α -MSH has been shown to elicit several behavioral changes in the conspecific animals, including altered sexual attraction in male rats (Thody and Wilson, 1983, Physiol. Behav. 31: 67-72), and modified aggression in male mice due to olfactory cues presumably from the preputial gland (Nowell et al., 1980, Physiol. Behav. 24: 5-9). High affinity ACTH and MSH binding sites have also been reported to regulate lipolysis in adipocytes (Oelofsen and Ramachandran, 1983, Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 225: 414-421; Ramachandran et al., 1976, Biochim. Biophys. Acta 428: 339-346) and protein secretion in the lacrimal gland (Jahn, 1982, Eur. J. Biochem. 126: 623-629; Tatro and Reichlin, 1987, ibid.).

The systemic effects of pituitary-derived peptides have been attributed to ACTH-mediated adrenocortical glucocorticoid production. The primary role of serum-derived ACTH is the regulation of adrenocortical glucocorticoid production. In response to physical or psychological stress, hypothalamic corticotropin releasing hormone stimulates the production of ACTH by anterior pituitary cells. Serum ACTH is elevated 3-5 fold, producing a subsequent 10-100 fold elevation in circulating cortisol or corticosterone. Glucocorticoids then support the response to stress, serving to stimulate hepatic gluconeogenesis and elevate blood glucose, and mobilize amino acid stores from muscle and fatty acids from adipose tissue. Glucocorticoids also have

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an important role in the resolution of immune responses, acting on numerous cell types to reduce inflammation.

One of the melanocortin receptors, termed MC-5, has been found by the present inventors to be widely-distributed in peripheral tissues, raising the possibility of non-steroidally mediated systemic effects of MSH/ACTH peptides. This receptor has been cloned from human, mouse, rat, and sheep, and is highly conserved, being approximately 80% identical amongst the mammals. Furthermore, the MC5-R is highly responsive to both α -MSH and ACTH, as determined by EC₅₀ values for elevation of intracellular cAMP or activation of adenylate cyclase. Further investigation by the present inventors has demonstrated high levels of MC5-R gene expression in multiple exocrine tissues, including the Harderian, preputial, lacrimal, and sebaceous glands in rodents. The MC5-R has also been shown to be required for the production of porphyrins by the Harderian gland, and physiological concentrations of ACTH were demonstrated to regulate protein secretion by the lacrimal gland *via* binding to MC5-R.

The present inventors have now produced a mouse by targeted disruption of the MC5-R gene with a severe defect in water repulsion and thermoregulation due to decreased production of sebaceous lipids. Analysis of these mice revealed a requirement for MC5-R gene expression in multiple exocrine glands *in vivo* for the production of a diverse set of products, including lipids, proteins, and porphyrins, and suggested the existence of a coordinated system for the regulation of exocrine gland function by melanocortin peptides, related to thermoregulatory homeostasis, tear production and the production of skin and hair oils. Thus, these results produced for the first time in the art a need for the development of MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists for the regulation of such biological processes and for the alleviation of diseases, dysfunctions and abnormal conditions related to exocrine gland function.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the cloning, expression and functional characterization of mammalian melanocortin receptor genes, particularly mammalian

MC5-R receptor genes, and most preferably human MC5-R receptor genes. The invention provides methods for identifying and producing naturally-occurring and synthetic agonists and antagonists specific for the MC5-R receptor gene for the treatment, control, amelioration and alleviation of diseases, dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders and diseases, and for exocrine gland-related disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Also provided by the invention are nucleic acids, constructs, vectors and methods for producing an animal having homozygous disruption of both endogenous MC-5 melanocortin receptors, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse. Such rodents, termed "gene knockout" rodents in the art, are also advantageously provided.

In a first aspect is provided a method for assaying any test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor. This method of the invention comprises the steps of:

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 (a) providing a first primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal wherein the melanocortin receptor is expressed in the tissue from the animal;

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(b) providing a second primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from the tissue of subpart (a), but derived from an animal carrying a disrupted genetic sequence encoding the melanocortin receptor wherein the disrupted allele cannot produce the melanocortin receptor in the cell;

(c)

cell culture of subpart (b) with the test compound;
(d) detecting binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell

contacting the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic

culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b); and

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(e) comparing binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with binding of the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

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In a preferred embodiment, the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R. In a preferred embodiment, the test compound is detectably labeled, most preferably with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.

In other preferred embodiments of the invention, detection of binding of the test compound is accomplished by detecting the production of a metabolite, most preferably cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) that is produced by the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor. The invention also provides additional methods wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element (CRE) transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite. In these embodiments, binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor produces expression of the protein that acts on a substrate in the cell to produce a detectable metabolite. Preferred embodiments of such aspects of the invention include cells comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding β -galactosidase, wherein expression of β -galactosidase is induced in the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor.

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Additionally, it is preferred that the cells of subpart (b) comprise a genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene that is in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

In another aspect of the methods of the invention, the following additional steps are included:

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(f) contacting the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subparts (a) and (b) with a detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist prior to contacting the eukaryotic cell cultures with the test compound;

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(g) comparing binding the detectably labeled melanocortin agonist or antagonist in the presence and absence of the test compound for each of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subparts (a) and (b); and

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(h) comparing inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).

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In a preferred embodiment, the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R. In preferred embodiments, the detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label. In other preferred embodiments of the invention, detection of binding of the test compound is accomplished by detecting the production of a metabolite, most preferably cAMP that is produced by the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor. The invention also provides additional methods wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a CRE transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite. In these embodiments, binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor produces expression of the protein that acts on a substrate in the cell to produce a detectable metabolite. Preferred embodiments of such aspects of the invention include cells comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding β -galactosidase, wherein expression of β -galactosidase is induced in the cell upon binding of the test compound to the melanocortin receptor.

In these aspects the invention it is also preferred that the cells of subpart (b) comprise a genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene that is in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

The invention also provides a recombinant expression construct comprising a portion of a nucleic acid encoding a melanocortin receptor gene, covalently linked to a nucleic acid comprising 5' or 3' untranslated sequence flanking the melanocortin receptor gene, a first selectable marker covalently linked immediately adjacent to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, and a second selectable marker covalently linked distal to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, wherein introduction of the recombinant expression construct into a eukaryotic cell produces a cell having a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by homologous recombination of the recombinant expression construct into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene. In preferred embodiments, the melanocortin gene is MC5-R, the first selectable marker

comprises a nucleic acid encoding a neo, hyg^R , or gpt gene and the second selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a herpesvirus thymidine kinase gene.

The invention also provides eukaryotic cells transformed with the recombinant expression constructs of the invention, most preferably embryonic stem cells, wherein the cells comprise a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by homologous recombination of the recombinant expression construct into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene.

Also provided are transgenic animals comprising a cell in a tissue of the animal, most preferably a germ cell, wherein an endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is disrupted by homologous recombination of a recombinant expression construct of the invention into the endogenous melanocortin receptor gene. In preferred embodiments, the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R, preferably in a heterozygous condition and most preferably in a homozygous condition.

The invention also provides methods for assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor the following steps:

providing a cell panel comprising a first mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC1-R receptor, a second mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC2-R receptor, a third mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC3-R receptor, a fourth mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC4-R receptor, wherein each mammalian cell expresses the melanocortin receptor encoded by the recombinant expression construct comprising the cell, and a fifth mammalian cell culture comprising a primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC5-R receptor;

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(a)

(b) contacting each of the cells of the panel with an agonist or antagonist of the mammalian melanocortin receptor in an amount sufficient to produce a detectable metabolite in the cells that bind the agonist or antagonist, in the presence or absence of a test compound; and

(c) detecting the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the panel in the presence of the test compound with the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the absence of each test compound.

Panels of cells according to subpart (a) are also provided by the invention.

The invention advantageously provides methods and reagents for detecting, characterizing and developing melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists, most preferably MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists, for producing pharmaceutical compositions for the alleviations of exocrine gland-related disorders, including but not limited to acne, other sebaceous gland skin disorders and diseases and lacrimal gland disorders such as "dry eye" condition. The production of mice homozygous for a genetically-disrupted melanocortin receptor, most preferably MC5-R receptor, enables the production of primary and immortalized cell and tissue cultures from such animals that can be used in comparison with similarly produced cultures from wild-type and heterozygous melanocortin disrupted mice for precise analysis and characterization of melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists. The methods of the invention also enable the production of equivalent mice homozygous for genetically-disrupted melanocortin receptors of the other known melanocortin receptor types, and the use of such mice in cognate methods for developing agonist and antagonist compounds and pharmaceutical compositions specific for each of the known melanocortin receptors. In addition, the methods of the present invention can be used with any cell surface receptor, including additional and as yet uncharacterized melanocortin receptors.

Specific preferred embodiments of the present invention will become evident from the following more detailed description of certain preferred embodiments and the claims.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A and 1B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 3) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 4) sequence of the mouse melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor gene (MC1-R).

Figures 2A and 2B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 5) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 6) sequence of the human melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor gene (MC1-R).

Figures 3A through 3C illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 7) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 8) sequence of the human adrenocorticotropic hormone receptor gene (MC2-R).

Figures 4A and 4B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 9) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 10) sequence of the bovine adrenocorticotropic hormone receptor gene (MC2-R).

Figures 5A and 5B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 11) and amino acid (SEO ID No.: 12) sequence of the rat melanocortin-3 receptor (MC3-R).

Figures 6A through 6C illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 15) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 16) sequence of the human melanocortin-4 receptor gene (MC4-R).

Figures 7A and 7B illustrate the nucleotide (SEQ ID No.: 17) and amino acid (SEQ ID No.: 18) sequence of the rat melanocortin-5 receptor gene (MC5-R).

Figure 8 shows a graph of intracellular cAMP accumulation resulting from melanocyte stimulating hormone receptor agonist binding in human 293 cells transfected with aMSH receptor-encoding recombinant expression construct.

Figure 9 illustrates the cAMP response of mouse Y1 cells to binding of melanocortin peptides to human melanocortin-2 (ACTH) receptor, as measured using the β -galactosidase assay described in Example 3.

Figure 10 illustrates the results of competition binding experiments of melanocortin peptides to cells expressing a recombinant expression construct encoding the rat melanocortin-3 receptor.

Figures 11A through 11C illustrate the results of experiment showing intracellular cAMP accumulation caused by receptor-ligand binding in human 293 cells expressing the MC3-R receptor.

Figure 12 shows a graph of intracellular cAMP accumulation resulting from melanocortin peptide binding to human melanocortin-4 receptor agonists in human 293 cells transfected with a MC4-R receptor-encoding recombinant expression construct.

Figure 13 illustrates the results of cAMP accumulation (AC) and cAMP-dependent β -galactosidase (β -gal) assays of melanocortin peptide binding to a rat melanocortin-5 receptor.

Figure 14 illustrates the structure of the pCRE/ β -gal plasmid.

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Figures 15A and 15B illustrate the results of the β -galactosidase-coupled, colorimetric melanocortin receptor binding assay using cells expressing each of the MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R or MC5-R receptors and contacted with α MSH or a variety of α MSH analogues.

Figure 16 shows a schematic drawing of the "knockout" construct described in Example 5. The shaded box in the wild-type allele represents the single coding exon of the murine MC5-R, with arrows in the boxes indicating the orientation of transcription. Small arrows above the boxes in the wild-type and mutant alleles stand for the sequences used as PCR primers for genotyping. The schematic drawing labeled "Mutant" shows the arrangement of mouse chromosomal sequences and pMC5-RKO sequences in homologous recombinant bearing mice. The sequences labeled "Probe 1" and "Probe 2" correspond to the probes used in Southern analysis of homologous recombinant bearing mice.

Figures 17A and 17 B shows the results of Southern analysis from different genotypes of F1 offspring using Probe 1 and Probe 2 shown in Figure 16. Genomic DNA of 21-day old progeny mice were isolated and their genotypes were determined using the mixture of three PCR primers as indicated in Figure 16 and described in Example 5. Ten μ g of DNA from putative wild-type, heterozygous and homozygous mutant mice was digested with Sac I for Southern analysis with probes 1 and 2. A 4.5 kb band shown in Figure 17A and a 5.5 kb band shown in Figure 17B represent the mutant, disrupted MC5-R allele.

Figure 17C shows the results of northern analysis of MC5-R mRNA expression in skeletal muscle tissue. Poly A^+ mRNA from 250 μg of total RNA was loaded in

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each lane. After electrophoresis and transfer, the membrane was probed with a radioactively-labeled probe comprising a 650 bp Apa I/Msc I fragment.

Figure 17D shows radioligand binding to skeletal muscle membranes. Fresh skeletal muscles of the hind limbs from individual mice of each genotype were minced, homogenized, and crude plasma membranes isolated as described in Example 5. Total and non-specific binding was measured after incubation of the membranes with 125 I-DMP- α -MSH (10,000 cpm/sample) in the presence or absence of 1 μ M α -MSH. After extensive washing, specific binding was calculated and normalized to total protein.

Figures 18A through 18F show defects in water repulsion and thermoregulation in MC5-RKO mice. Figure 18A illustrate that MC5-RKO mice dry more slowly after a 3 minute swim. The picture taken about 15 minutes after swimming in 32°C water. The two wet mice on the left are MC5-RKO mice. The other two are wild-type mice. Figure 18B shows impaired water repulsion in MC5-RKO mice. MC5-RKO mice absorb more water during the swim than wild-type controls. Removal of hair lipids with 5% SDS wash increases water absorption in wild-type mice. Figure 18C shows that increased water absorption induces hypothermia in MC5-RKO mice and in shampooed wild-type mice. Figure 18D shows MC5-RKO and shampooed wild-type mice exhibit hypothermia in cold air. Mice were put in 5-6°C cold room without bedding in a Plexiglas cage. Colonic temperature was measured every 30 minutes. Figure 18E shows reduced sebum production by 15-20% in MC5-RKO mice. Figure 18F shows significant deficit in sterol ester lipids in the MC5-RKO mouse. Hair lipids are extracted as described in Example 5. Lipids were resolved in Silica Gel 60 plate (20 x 20 cm) with hexanes/benzenes (55:45, v/v). Each lane contained 150 μg of total lipids.

Figures 19A through 19E are in situ hybridization assays showing that MC5-R is highly abundant in exocrine glands and present at low levels in a number of other tissues. Figure 19A shows that MC5-R is specifically expressed in sebaceous gland in the skin. Five μ M sections were made from paraffin-embedded skin tissues. After proteinase K digestion and acetylation, the sections were probed with antisense (Figure 19A, Panels A though C) or sense (Figure 19A, Panel D) riboprobe of the deleted region in MC5-RKO mice. Hybridization of MC5-R was found in wild-type skin

(Figure 19A, Panels A and C) but not in MC5-RKO skin (Figure 19A, Panel B). No hybridization was detected by sense probe of the same sequence in mild-type skin (Figure 19A, Panel D).

Figure 19B illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is expressed at low levels in a number of neuronal and non-neuronal tissues. Forty μ g of total RNA was loaded in each lane (10 μ g for pituitary, thyroid adrenal).

Figure 19C illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is highly expressed in preputial, Harderian and lacrimal glands. Ten μ g of total RNA is loaded in each lane.

Figure 19D illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA levels in preputial gland are much higher than in the skin. Twenty ug of total RNA was loaded in each lane.

Figure 19E illustrates the results of northern analysis showing MC5-R mRNA is not present in preputial and Harderian gland of MC5-RKO mice. Ten μ g of total RNA was loaded in each lane. The membrane-bound RNA was probed with the 650 bp *Apa I/Msc* I MC5-R-derived fragment specifically deleted in MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 20A through 20D illustrate that MC5-R is the only functional melanocortin receptor in several exocrine glands, and the primary melanocortin receptor in the spinal cord.

Figure 20A shows that specific binding sites are present in plasma membrane of Harderian gland, preputial gland and lacrimal gland. The crude membranes were prepared as described in Example 5. The specific binding activity in different tissues does not necessarily represent the levels of expression, as the purity of the membrane preparation may be different between samples form different tissue.

Figure 20B shows NDP- α -MSH binding is markedly decreased in the spinal cord of MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 20C shows lack of α -MSH and NDP- α -MSH regulated cAMP production in preputial glands from MC5-RKO mice. Glands were excised and incubated with DMEM containing α -MSH (50 μ M), NDP- α -MSH (100 μ M), or the two combined. Twenty minutes later, the glands were snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and subsequently homogenized in 60% ethanol. After centrifugation, the cAMP

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supernatant was vacuum dried. The quantity of cAMP in each sample was determined by a cAMP RIA kit purchased from NEN.

Figure 20D shows lack of α -MSH and NDP- α -MSH regulated cAMP production in Harderian glands from MC5-RKO mice.

Figure 21A shows MC5-R deficiency results in lacrimal gland dysfunction. MC5-RKO mice lack of melanocortin-stimulated protein secretion in lacrimal gland

Figure 21B shows a dose-response curve of ACTH stimulated protein secretion in lacrimal gland of C57/Bl/6 mice.

Figures 22A and 22B show MC5-R deficiency results in markedly reduced porphyrin content in the Harderian gland. Figure 22A is a comparison of UV illuminated fluorescence between extracts from Harderian gland of individual MC5-RKO mice and wild-type or heterozygous controls. Figure 22B is a comparison of porphyrins from a pair of Harderian gland by scanning spectrophotometry, wherein one-quarter of the total extracts from individual pairs of glands in 0.5 ml 0.25 N HCl was scanned. The two absorbance peaks at 402 and 550 nm are characteristics of porphyrins.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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The term "melanocortin receptor" as used herein reference to proteins having the biological activity of any of the disclosed melanocortin receptors, including the MC1-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 3, 4, 5 and 6, also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Patent 5,532,347, incorporated by reference), MC2-R (ACTH; SEQ ID Nos.: 7, 8, 9 and 10, also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Patent 5,554,729, incorporated by reference), MC3-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 11 and 12, also disclosed in co-owned U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812, incorporated by reference), MC4-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 15 and 16) or MC5-R (SEQ ID Nos.: 17 and 18) receptors, as well as naturally-occurring and genetically-engineered allelic variations in these sequences. In particular, primary and immortalized cultures of mammalian cells expressing native melanocortin receptors, as well as mammalian cells produced as described herein by recombinant genetic techniques and expressing heterologous melanocortin receptors, are encompassed by this invention. For the

purposes of this invention, the terms "native" and "endogenous" will be understood to describe melanocortin receptor gene expression in cells expressing the naturallyoccurring melanocortin gene incorporated as part of the cells of chromosome and inherited without intervention by man. In contrast, the term "heterologous" or "genetically engineered" when applied to a melanocortin receptor gene will be understood to encompass melanocortin receptor genes and sequences introduced into a cell by genetic engineering or other means, thereby providing the cell with the capacity to express a hitherto unexpressed gene derived from another cell, and preferably a melanocortin receptor gene from a different mammalian species.

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Cloned nucleic acid provided by the present invention may encode MC receptor proteins of any species of origin, including, for example, mouse, rat, rabbit, cat, and human, but preferably the nucleic acid provided by the invention encodes MC receptors of mammalian, most preferably rodent and human, origin.

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The production of proteins such as the MC receptors from cloned genes by genetic engineering means is well known in this art. The discussion which follows is accordingly intended as an overview of this field, and is not intended to reflect the full state of the art.

disclosure, by chemical synthesis, by screening reverse transcripts of mRNA from appropriate cells or cell line cultures, by screening genomic libraries from appropriate

cells, or by combinations of these procedures, as illustrated below. Screening of mRNA or genomic DNA may be carried out with oligonucleotide probes generated from the MC receptor gene sequence information provided herein. Probes may be labeled with a detectable group such as a fluorescent group, a radioactive atom or a chemiluminescent group in accordance with know procedures and used in conventional

hybridization assays, as described in greater detail in the Examples below. In the alternative, MC receptor gene sequences may be obtained by use of the polymerase

DNA which encodes MC receptors may be obtained, in view of the instant

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from the MC receptor gene sequences provided herein. See U.S. Patent Nos.

chain reaction (PCR) procedure, with the PCR oligonucleotide primers being produced

4,683,195 to Mullis et al. and 4,683,202 to Mullis.

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MC receptor proteins may be synthesized in cells from tissues that endogenously express any particular melanocortin receptor species. In particular, primary and immortalized cells are derived from tissues and organs of a mammal to provide cultures of such cells for use with the methods of the invention as disclosed herein, using methods well known in the art. See <u>Tissue Culture</u>, Academic Press, Kruse & Patterson, editors (1973). Any primary or immortalized culture expressing an endogenous (as opposed to heterologous or genetically-engineered) melanocortin receptor can be used, provided such cells produce an amount of the melanocortin receptor protein that is detectable using receptor binding assays as described herein and known in the art.

Alternatively, host cells transformed with a recombinant expression construct comprising a nucleic acid encoding each of the receptors disclosed herein can be used to provide a homogeneous culture of MC receptor expressing cells. Recombinant expression constructs comprising the MC receptor coding sequences as disclosed herein can also be comprised of a vector that is a replicable DNA construct. Vectors are used herein either to amplify DNA encoding an MC receptor and/or to express DNA which encodes an MC receptor. For the purposes of this invention, a recombinant expression construct is a replicable DNA construct in which a DNA sequence encoding an MC receptor is operably linked to suitable control sequences capable of effecting the expression of the receptor in a suitable host cell. The need for such control sequences will vary depending upon the host selected and the transformation method chosen. Generally, control sequences include a transcriptional promoter, an optional operator sequence to control transcription, a sequence encoding suitable mRNA ribosomal binding sites, and sequences which control the termination of transcription and translation. Amplification vectors do not require expression control domains. All that is needed is the ability to replicate in a host, usually conferred by an origin of replication, and a selection gene to facilitate recognition of transformants. See, Sambrook et al., 1990, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor Press: New York).

Also specifically provided by the invention are reporter expression constructs comprising a nucleic acid encoding a protein capable of expressing a detectable

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phenotype, such as the production of a detectable reporter molecule, in a cell expressing the construct. Such constructs can be used for producing recombinant mammalian cell lines in which the reporter construct is stably expressed. Most preferably, however, the reporter construct is provided and used to induce transient expression over an experimental period of from about 18 to 96 hrs in which detection of the reporter protein produced detectable metabolite comprises an assay. Such reporter expression constructs are also provided wherein induction of expression of the reporter construct is controlled by a responsive element operatively linked to the coding sequence of the reporter protein, so that expression is induced only upon proper stimulation of the responsive element. Exemplary of such a responsive element is a cAMP responsive element (CRE), which induces expression of the reporter protein as a result of an increase in intracellular cAMP concentration. In the context of the present invention, such a stimulus is associated with melanocortin receptor binding. so that a reporter construct comprising one or more CREs is induced to express the reporter protein upon binding of a receptor agonist to a MC receptor in a recombinantly transformed mammalian cell. Preferably, such reporter gene constructs are genetically engineered into cells expressing a melanocortin receptor of the invention, either heterologous or endogenous as these terms have been defined herein. thereby providing a recombinant cell capable of producing a detectable product upon agonist or antagonist receptor binding to the melanocortin receptor expressed by the cell.

Vectors useful for practicing the present invention include plasmids, viruses (including phage), retroviruses, and particularly integratable DNA fragments (i.e., fragments integratable into the host genome by homologous recombination). The vector may replicate and function independently of the host genome, or more preferably, may, in some instances, integrate into the genome itself. Suitable vectors will contain replicon and control sequences which are derived from species compatible with the intended expression host. Transformed host cells are cells which have been transformed or transfected with recombinant expression constructs made using recombinant DNA techniques and comprising mammalian MC receptor-encoding sequences. Preferred host cells are human 293 cells. Preferred host cells for the MC-

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2 (ACTH) receptor are Y1 cells (subclone OS3 or Y6). Transformed host cells are chosen that are capable of expressing functional MC receptor protein introduced using the recombinant expression construct. When expressed, the mammalian MC receptor protein will typically be located in the host cell membrane. See, Sambrook et at., ibid.

Cultures of cells derived from multicellular organisms are a desirable host for recombinant MC receptor protein synthesis. In principal, any higher eukaryotic cell culture is workable, whether from vertebrate or invertebrate culture. However, mammalian cells are preferred, as illustrated in the Examples. Propagation of such cells in cell culture has become a routine procedure. See <u>Tissue Culture</u>, Academic Press, Kruse & Patterson, editors (1973). Examples of useful host cell lines are human 293 cells, VERO and HeLa cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell lines, mouse Y1 (subclone OS3), and W1138, BHK, COS-7, CV, and MDCK cell lines. Human 293 cells are preferred.

Cells expressing mammalian MC receptor proteins made endogenously or from heterologous cloned genes genetically engineered in accordance with the present invention may be used for screening agonist and antagonist compounds for MC receptor activity. Competitive binding assays are well known in the art and are described in the Examples below. Such assays are useful for drug screening of MC receptor agonist and antagonist compounds, as detected in receptor binding assays as described below.

The invention also provides membrane preparation from cells expressing MC receptors either endogenously or as the result of transformation with a recombinant expression construct, as described herein, useful for screening agonist or antagonist compounds for MC receptor binding activity, or for determining the amount of a MC receptor agonist or antagonist drug in a solution (e.g., blood plasma or serum). For example, cells expressing a melanocortin receptor protein, most preferably an MC5-R receptor protein, either endogenously or as the result of transformation with a recombinant expression construct of the present invention, are obtained according to the methods of the invention, the cells lysed, and the membranes from those cells used to screen compounds for MC receptor binding activity. Competitive binding assays in which such procedures may be carried out are well known in the art. By selection

of host cells that express only one endogenous melanocortin receptor, or that do not ordinarily express a melanocortin receptor and are transformed with a recombinant expression construct of the invention encoding such a melanocortin receptor, preferably from a heterologous mammalian species, pure preparations of membranes containing only that melanocortin receptor can be obtained. Further, membranes obtained from such cells can be used in binding studies wherein the drug dissociation activity is monitored.

Alternatively, intact cells can be used to detect, monitor and characterize melanocortin receptor agonists and antagonists by assaying for a cellular product, either naturally-occurring or encoded by a reporter gene genetically engineered into the recipient cell, that is produced by the cell upon melanocortin receptor binding. These and other receptor-binding assays, including assays detecting transcription of a gene sensitive to melanocortin receptor agonist binding, binding of radiolabeled agonist or antagonist species to a melanocortin receptor or competition binding variations thereof, and the detection of an enzymatic or antigenic activity mediated by a protein produced as the result of melanocortin receptor binding are provided by the invention and will be understood in the art as being equivalent to the methods explicitly disclosed herein.

Also provided by the methods of the invention are reagents and methods for producing an animal, preferably a rodent and most preferably a mouse, bearing a homozygous disruption of both allelic copies of a particular melanocortin receptor, resulting in genetic ablation of the particular melanocortin receptor gene. Preferably, the melanocortin receptor is the MC5-R receptor and most preferably the melanocortin receptor is the mouse MC5-R receptor. Reagents provided by the invention include so-called "knockout" recombinant genetic constructs comprising a defective, most preferably a deleted, species of the melanocortin receptor encoding sequences, additional homologous sequences 5' and 3' from the defective coding sequences, and selectable markers for selecting clones of cells bearing the construct. Such selectable markers can be any known selectable gene, such as the genes for neomycin resistance, hygromycin resistance, the guanine phosphotransferase gene of *E. coli* (*Ecogpt*) and others known in the art. Particularly preferred are constructs comprising a herpesvirus

thymidine kinase gene introduced in an orientation that permits selection against transformed or transfected cells having the construct incorporated randomly (as opposed to specifically by homologous recombination) into the host cell DNA. These constructs of the invention are provided to maximize the likelihood that recombinant cells will incorporate the construct DNA into host cell genomic DNA by homologous recombination that disrupts at least one allele of the target MC receptor.

Also provided by the invention are cultures of cells transformed with such "knockout" recombinant genetic constructs, preferably stem cells and most preferably embryonic stem (ES) cells capable of being introduced into a mammalian blastocyst and being incorporated into the cells of the organism upon development. The invention therefore also provides such transgenic animals produced thereby, most preferably having at least one of the endogenous melanocortin receptor genes disrupted by homologous recombination by the "knockout" recombinant genetic construct. The invention also provides colonies of inbred and outbred mice bearing a disrupted species of a melanocortin receptor in heterozygous (i.e., on only one chromosome) or homozygous (i.e., on both homologous chromosomes) condition, most preferably wherein the cells in the tissues of the animals bearing the disrupted species include germ cells (i.e., sperm cells, egg cells and their progenitors), thereby providing genetic transmission of the disrupted allele by mating. Most preferred are so-called "knockout" mice bearing the disrupted melanocortin receptor gene in their germ cells in the homozygous condition.

The invention also provides primary and immortalized cell cultures derived from tissues and organs of melanocortin "knockout" rodents, preferably mice, provided by the invention. Preferably, such rodents are mice bearing disrupted alleles of the melanocortin MC5-R receptor in the homozygous conditions, thereby providing primary and immortalized cell and organ cultures that are functionally and genetically null for MC5-R receptor expression. Such primary and immortalized cell and organ cultures thereby provide means and assays for comparing the effects of agonist and antagonist binding to cells endogenously or heterologously expressing the MC5-R receptor and developmentally equivalent cells that cannot express this receptor due to the homozygous engineered MC5-R gene disruption. Use of said primary and

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immortalized cell and organ cultures in assays for detecting and characterizing melanocortin receptor binding to agonist and antagonist compounds is provided by the invention.

Thus, the invention provides a variety of methods that are screening assays for detecting and characterizing agonists and antagonists of melanocortin receptor, most preferably MC5-R receptors.

The invention also provides an assay system, comprising a panel of cells expressing each of the known melanocortin receptors either endogenously or as recombinant mammalian cells heterologously expressing each of the MC receptors disclosed herein, wherein the panel is constructed of at least one cell line expressing an MC receptor, most preferably an MC5-R receptor. The invention provides such panels also comprising a detection means for detecting receptor agonist or antagonist binding, such as the reporter expression constructs described herein, and using direct binding and competition binding assays as described in the Examples below. In the use of this panel, each MC receptor is assayed for agonist or antagonist patterns of binding a test compound, and a characteristic pattern of binding for all MC receptors is thereby determined for each test compound. This pattern is then compared with known MC receptor agonists and antagonists to identify new compounds having a pattern of receptor binding activity associated with a particular behavioral or physiological effect.

The invention provides an *in vitro* assay to characterize MC5-R agonists/antagonists as a preliminary and economical step towards developing exocrine gland modulating drugs for use *in vivo*.

The MC receptor binding agonists, antagonists and analogues provided using the methods of the invention, and in particular those analogues that are MC5-R receptor agonists, antagonists or analogues are provided to be used in methods of treating, controlling, ameliorating and alleviating diseases, and dysfunctional and abnormal states related to thermoregulatory disorders, as well as other diseases relating to exocrine gland disorders, including lacrimal gland dysfunction and sebaceous gland disorders including acne and other skin problems. Specific examples of uses for the MC receptor binding analogues of the invention include but are not

limited to treatment of skin disorders such as acne and other diseases related to the over- or under-production of sebaceous gland products; for the treatment of ocular disorders related to the production or lack thereof of tears and ocular lubrication; and diseases and disorders in animals related to estrus, mating, gestation or other pheromone-related disorders.

The Examples which follow are illustrative of specific embodiments of the invention, and various uses thereof. They set forth for explanatory purposes only, and are not to be taken as limiting the invention.

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EXAMPLE 1

Isolation of an αMSH Receptor Probe by Random PCR Amplification of Human Melanoma cDNA Using <u>Degenerate Oligonucleotide Primers</u>

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In order to clone novel G-protein coupled receptors, cDNA prepared from RNA from human melanoma cells was used as template for a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based random cloning experiment. PCR was performed using a pair of degenerate oligonucleotide primers corresponding to the putative third and sixth membrane regions of G-protein coupled receptors (Libert et al., 1989, Science 244: 569-72; Zhou et al., 1990, Nature 347: 76-80). The PCR products obtained in this experiment were characterized by nucleotide sequencing. Two novel sequences representing novel G-protein-coupled receptors were identified.

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PCR amplification was performed as follows. Total RNA was isolated from a human melanoma tumor sample by the guanidinium thiocyanate method (Chirgwin et al., 1979, Biochemistry 18: 5294-5299). Double-stranded cDNA was synthesized from total RNA with murine reverse transcriptase (BRL, Gaithersburg, MD) by oligo-dT priming (Sambrook et al., ibid.). The melanoma cDNA mixture was then subjected to 45 cycles of PCR amplification using 500 picomoles of degenerate oligonucleotide primers having the following sequence:

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Primer III (sense):

GAGTCGACCTGTG(C/T)G(C/T)(C/G)AT(C/T)(A/G)CIIT(G/T)GAC(C/A)G(C/G)TAC

PCT/US98/12098

(SEQ ID NO: 1)

and

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Primer VI (antisense):

CAGAATTCAG(T/A)AGGGCAICCAGCAGAI(G/C)(G/A)(T/C)GAA

(SEQ ID NO: 2)

in 100 μ L of a solution containing 50 mM Tris-HCI (pH 8.3), 2.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.01 % gelatin, 200 μ M each dNTP, and 2.5 Units of Taq polymerase (Saiki et al., 1988, Science 239: 487-491). These primers were commercially synthesized by Research Genetics Inc. (Huntsville, AL). Each PCR amplification cycle consisted of incubations at 94°C for 1 min (denaturation), 45°C for 2 min (annealing), and 72°C for 2 min (extension).

Amplified products of the PCR reaction were extracted with phenol/chloroform and precipitated with ethanol. After digestion with *EcoRl* and *SalI*, the PCR products were separated on a 1.2% agarose get. A slice of this gel, corresponding to PCR products of 300 basepairs (bp) in size, was cut out and purified using glass beads and sodium iodide, and the insert was then cloned into a pBKS cloning vector (Stratagene, LaJolla, CA).

A total of 172 of such pbks clones containing inserts were sequenced using Sequenase (U.S. Biochemical Corp., Cleveland, OH) by the dideoxynucleotide chain termination method (Sanger et al., 1977, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 74: 5463-5467). Two types of sequences homologous to other G-protein coupled receptors were identified.

EXAMPLE 2A

Isolation of a Mouse αMSH (MC1-R) Receptor cDNA

Probes isolated in Example 1 was used to screen a Cloudman melanoma cDNA library in order to isolate a full-length cDNA corresponding to the cloned probe. One clone was isolated clone was isolated from a library of 5×10^7 clones screened as described below. This clone contained an insert of 2.6 kilobases (kb). The nucleotide sequence of the complete coding region was determined (see co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, incorporated by reference); a portion of this cDNA comprising the

coding region was sequenced and is shown in Figures 1A and 1 B (SEQ ID Nos: 3 & 4).

EXAMPLE 2B <u>Isolation of a Human αMSH (MC1-R)</u> Receptor cDNA

In order to isolate a human counterpart of the murine melanocyte αMSH receptor gene disclosed in Example 2A and in co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, a human genomic library was screened at high stringency (50% formamide, 42°C) using the human PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1. An isolated genomic clone was determined to encode an human MSH receptor (SEQ ID NO: 5.; Figures 2A and 2B). The human MSH receptor has a predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 6) that is 75% identical and collinear with the mouse αMSH receptor cDNA sequence. The predicted molecular weight of the human MSH receptor is 34.7kD.

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EXAMPLE 2C

Isolation of a Human ACTH (MC2-R) Receptor cDNA

For cloning the ACTH receptor (MC2-R), a human genomic library was screened at high stringency (50% formamide, 1M NaCl, 50mM Tris-HCI, pH 7.5, 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 100µg/mL salmon sperm DNA, 10X Denhardt's solution, 42°C), using the human PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1 herein and U.S. Patent No. 5,280,112, incorporated by reference. A genomic clone was isolated that encodes a highly related G-coupled receptor protein (SEQ ID No: 7 and Figures 3A and 3B). The predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 8) of this clone is 39% identical and also collinear, excluding the third intracellular loop and carboxy-terminal tail, with the human MSH receptor gene product. The predicted molecular weight of this ACTH receptor is 33.9 kilodaltons (kD). This clone was identified as encoding an MC2-R receptor based on its high degree of homology to the murine and human MSH receptors, and the pattern of expression in different tissue types, as described in Example 3 in U.S. Patent 5,280,112, incorporated by reference herein.

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EXAMPLE 2D

Isolation of a Bovine ACTH (MC2-R) Receptor cDNA

A bovine genomic DNA clone encoding the bovine counterpart of the MC2-R (ACTH) receptor was isolated from a bovine genomic library, essentially as described in Example 2C above, and its nucleotide sequence determined (as shown in Figures 4A and 4B; SEQ ID Nos: 9 & 10).

EXAMPLE 2E

Isolation of a Rat y-MSH (MC3-R) Receptor cDNA

The mouse α MSH receptor cDNA isolated as described in Example 2A and co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347 was used to screen a rat hypothalamus cDNA library at low stringency (30% formamide, 5X SSC, 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, $100\mu g/mL$ salmon sperm DNA, and 10% Denhardt's solution) at 42°C for 18h. A 1 kb cDNA clone was isolated and sequenced as described in co-owned U.S. Patent No. 5,532,347, and this clone used to re-screen the rat hypothalamus cDNA library at high stringency (same conditions as above except that formamide was present at 45%). A cDNA clone approximately 2.0 kb in length was isolated and analyzed as described in co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 08/044,812, incorporated by reference; a portion of this cDNA comprising the coding region was sequenced and is shown in Figures 5A and 5B (SEQ ID Nos: 11 & 12).

EXAMPLE 2F

Isolation of a Human MC4-R Receptor DNA

For cloning the MC4-R receptor, a human genomic library was screened at moderate stringency (40% formamide, 1M NaCl, 50mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 0.2% sodium dodecyl sulfate, $100\mu g/mL$ salmon sperm DNA, 10X Denhardt's solution, 42°C), using rat PCR fragments isolated as described in Example 1 herein, with the exception that the following primers were used for PCR: Primer II (sense):

GAGTCGACC(A/G)CCCATGTA(C/T)T(AGT)(C/T)TTCATCTG

(SEQ ID No.:13)

and

Primer VII (antisense):

CAGAATTCGGAA(A/G)GC(A/G)TA(G/T)ATGA(A/G)GGGGTC

(SEQ ID No.:14).

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A genomic clone was isolated that encodes a highly-related G-coupled receptor protein (SEQ ID No.:15 and Figures 6A and 6B) on a 1.9kb *HindIII* fragment. The predicted amino acid sequence (SEQ ID No.:16) of this clone shares 55-61% sequence identity with human MC3-R and MC5-R receptors, and 46-47% sequence identity with the human MC1-R and MC2-R (ACTH) receptors.

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EXAMPLE 2G

Isolation of a Mouse MC5-R Receptor cDNA

One million clones from a mouse 129SVJ genomic library comprising 5 million clones constructed in the λ FixII vector (Stratagene) were screened at low stringency (hybridization in 40% formamide at 42°C, washing performed in 0.5X SSC at 60°C, as described above in Example 2E) using radiolabeled probes from the rat MC3-R and MC4-R receptors, as described in Examples 2E and 2F. Positively-hybridizing clones were isolated and sequenced, and the sequences obtained were compared to previously-isolated melanocortin receptor clones. One clone, comprising a previously-unknown sequence, was determined to encode the MC5-R melanocortin receptor. The nucleotide and amino acid sequences of this receptor are shown in Figures 7A and 7B (SEQ ID Nos.: 17 & 18).

EXAMPLE 3

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Construction of a Recombinant Expression Construct, DNA Transfection and Functional Expression of the MCR Gene Products

In order to produce recombinant mammalian cells expressing each of the melanocortin receptors of Example 2, cDNA or the coding exons from genomic DNA from each receptor were cloned into a mammalian expression construct, the resulting recombinant expression construct transfected into human 293 cells, that do not express

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an endogenous melanocortin receptor protein, and cell lines generated that expressed the melanocortin receptor proteins in cellular membranes at the cell surface.

The mouse α MSH receptor was cloned by excising the entire coding region of the MSH R (MC1-R) cDNA insert comprising a 2.1kb fragment and subcloning this fragment into the *BamHI/XhoI* sites of pcDNA/neo expression vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA). The resulting plasmid was prepared in large-scale through one cycle of CsCl gradient ultracentrifugation, and 20 μ g of the plasmid transfected into each 100mm dish of 293 cells using the calcium phosphate method (see Chen & Okayama, 1987, *Mol Cell. Biol.* 7: 2745-2752). After transfection, cells were cultured in DMEM media supplemented with 10% calf serum in a 3% CO₂ atmosphere at 37°C. Selection was performed with neomycin (G418; GIBCO, Long Island, N.Y.) at a concentration of 1000 μ g/mL; selection was started 72 hr after transfection and continued for 3 weeks.

The aMSH receptor is known to couple to G-proteins and thereby activate adenylate cyclase, increasing intracellular levels of cAMP (see Buckley & Ramachandran, 1981, Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 78: 7431-7435; Grahame-Smith et al., 1967, J Biol. Chem 242: 5535-5541; Mertz & Catt, 1991, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88: 8525-8529; Pawalek et al., 1976, Invest. Dermatol. 66: 200-209). This property of cells expressing the aMSH receptor was used analyze expression of the aMSH receptor in cell colonies transfected with the expression vectors described herein as follows. Cells (~1x106) were plated in 6-well dishes, washed once with DMEM containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.5mM isobutylmethylxanthine (IBMX, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor), then incubated for 45 minutes at 37°C with varying concentrations of the melanotropic peptides aMSH. βMSH, γMSH, the MSH peptide analogue Nie⁴, D-Phe⁷-αMSH (NDP-MSH), and ACTH. Following hormone treatment, the cells were washed twice with phosphate buffered saline and intracellular CAMP extracted by lysing the cells with 1 mL of 60% ethanol. Intracellular cAMP concentrations were determined using an assay (Amersham) which measures the ability of cAMP to displace 8-3H-cAMP from a high affinity cAMP binding protein (see Gilman, 1970, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 67: 305-312).

The results of these experiments are shown in Figure 8. The abscissa indicates the concentration of each hormone and the ordinate indicates the percentage of basal intracellular cAMP concentration achieved by each treatment. Points indicate the mean of duplicate incubations; the standard error did not exceed 15% for any data point. None of the peptides tested induced any change in intracellular cAMP in cells containing the vector alone. Cells expressing the murine α MSH receptor responded to melanotropic peptides with a 2-3 fold elevation of intracellular cAMP, similar to levels of cAMP induced by these peptides in the Cloudman cell line (see Pawalek, 1985, Yale J Biol. Med. 58: 571-578). The EC₅₀ values determined for α MSH (2.0 x 10⁻⁹ M), ACTH (8.0 x 10⁻⁹ M) and the superpotent MSH analogue NDP-MSH (2.8 x 10⁻¹¹ M) correspond closely to reported values (see Tatro et al., 1990, ibid.). As expected, the β MSH peptide had an EC₅₀ value comparable to α MSH, while γ MSH had little or no activity (see Slominski et al., 1992, Life Sci. 50: 1103-1108), confirming the identity of this receptor as a melanocyte α MSH receptor.

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A similar series of experiments were performed using mouse Y1 cells (subclone OS3; Schimmer *et al.*, 1995, *J. Cell. Physiol.* 163: 164-171) expressing the human and bovine MC2-R (ACTH) receptor clones of Examples 2C and 2D. These results are shown in Figure 9, where the extent of cAMP responsive element-linked β -galactosidase activity (see below) is shown with increasing concentrations of ACTH.

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The entire coding region of the MC3-R receptor cDNA insert, obtained as described in Example 2E above and in co-pending U.S. Serial No. 08/044,812, was contained in a 2.0kb restriction enzyme digestion fragment and was cloned into the *BamHI/XhoI* sites of pcDNA/neo I expression vector (Invitrogen, San Diego, CA). The resulting plasmid was prepared in large-scale through one cycle of CsCl gradient ultracentrifugation and 20 μ g pcDNA/MC3-R receptor DNA were transfected into 293 cells by calcium phosphate co-precipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418-containing media.

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Specific binding of melanocortin peptides to cells expressing the MC3-R receptor was demonstrated by competition experiments using 125 I-labeled Nle⁴-D-Phe⁷- α -MSH (NDP-MSH, as described in Tatro *et al*, 1990, *ibid*.). Suspended cells (2 x 105) were incubated at 37°C with 500,000 cpm of labeled peptide for 10 min in

binding buffer (Ham's F10 media plus 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.2, 0.25% bovine serum albumin, 500 K IU/mL aprotinin, $100 \mu\text{g/mL}$ bacitracin and 1mM 1,10-phenanthroline) in the presence or absence of the indicated concentrations of peptides. Maximum labeling was achieved within 10 min.

The results of these experiments are shown in Figure 10. Labeled NDP-MSH binding to cells expressing the MC3-R receptor, produced as described above, is inhibited by competition with unlabeled peptides known to be melanocortin receptor agonists, having a relative order of potency as follows:

 $NDP\text{-MSH} > \gamma\text{-MSH} > \alpha\text{-MSH} > ACTH_{4\text{-}10} >>> ORG2766.$

Approximate K, values derived from this experiment are as shown in Table 1:

TABLE I

Pro-			
Agonist	K _i (approx.)		
NDP-MSH	2 x 10 ⁻⁸		
γ-MSH	5 x 10 ⁻⁸		
α-MSH	1 x 10 ⁻⁷		
ACTH ₄₋₁₀	8 x 10 ⁻⁵		

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cAMP production assays as described above were also used to analyze expression of MC3-R in cells transfected with the expression vectors described herein as follows. Cells (~5 x 106) were plated in 6-well dishes, washed once with DMEM containing 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) and 0.5mM IBMX (a phosphodiesterase inhibitor), then incubated for 1h at 37°C with varying concentrations of the melanotropic peptides αMSH, γ₃MSH, γMSH, the MSH peptide analogues Nle-D-Phe⁷-αMSH (NDP-MSH), ACTH₄₋₁₀ and ACTH ₁₋₃₉. Following hormone treatment, the cells were washed twice with phosphate buffered saline and intracellular cAMP extracted by lysing the cells with 1mL of 60% ethanol. Intracellular cAMP concentrations were determined using an assay which measures the ability of cAMP to displace (8-3H)-cAMP from a high affinity cAMP binding protein (see Gilman, 1979, *ibid.*).

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The results of these experiments are shown in Figures 11A through 11C. The abscissa indicates the concentration of each hormone and the ordinate indicates the

percentage of basal intracellular cAMP concentration achieved by each treatment. Points indicate the mean of duplicate incubations; the standard error did not exceed 15% for any data point. Figure 11A depicts the results of experiments using peptides found *in vivo*; Figure 11B depicts results found with γ-MSH variants; and Figure 11C shows results of synthetic melanocortin analogues. None of the peptides tested induced any change in intracellular cAMP in cells containing the vector alone. Cells expressing rat MC3-R responded strongly to every melanotropic peptide containing the MSH code sequence His-Phe-Arg-Trp, with up to a 60-fold elevation of intracellular cAMP levels. EC₅₀ values ranged from 1-50 nM. The most potent ligand and the one having the lowest EC₅₀ was found to be γMSH. The order of potency for the naturally occurring melanocortins was found to be:

 γ_2 -MSH = γ MSH > α MSH = ACTH₁₋₃₉ > γ_3 -MSH > des-acetyl- α MSH > ACTH₄₋₁₀. EC₅₀ values for these compounds are shown in Table II:

TABLE II

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Agonist	EC ₅₀
NDP-MSH	1 x 10 ⁻⁹
γ ₁ -MSH	3 x 10 ⁻⁹
γ ₂ -MSH	3 x 10 ⁻⁹
α-MSH	4 x 10 ⁻⁹
ACTH ₁₋₃₉	4 x 10 ⁻⁹
γ ₃ -MSH	6 x 10 ⁻⁹
desacetyl-α-MSH	. 8 x 10 ⁻⁹
ACTH ₄₋₁₀	1 x 10 ⁻⁷

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Additionally, a synthetic melanocortin peptide (ORG2766), known to have the greatest activity *in vivo* in stimulation of retention of learned behavior and in stimulation of neural regeneration, was unable to stimulate MC3-R-mediated cAMP production, and was also inactive as an antagonist. The results strongly indicate that this peptide does not bind to MC3-R protein.

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The MC4-R receptor was cloned in a 1.9kb *HindIII* genomic DNA fragment after PCR amplification of a lambda phage clone into pcDNAI/Neo (Invitrogen). This

plasmid was stably introduced into human 293 cells by calcium phosphate coprecipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418 containing media. Specificity of receptor-hormone binding was assayed using adenylate cylcase activity as described above. The MC4-R receptor was found to couple to adenylate cyclase activity having the following pattern of agonist affinity:

NDP-MSH > des-acetyl- α -MSH >/= ACTH₁₋₃₉>/= α -MSH > > γ_2 -MSH = ACTH₄₋₁₀ whereas the synthetic ACTH₄₋₉ analogue ORG2766 showed no detectable binding to the MC4-R receptor. The results of adenylate cyclase activity assays are shown in Figure 12. EC₅₀ values for each of the tested MC4-R receptor agonists are as shown in Table III:

TABLE III

Agonist	EC ₅₀		
NDP-MSH	1.1 x 10 ⁻¹¹		
desacetyl-α-MSH	4.9 x 10 ⁻¹⁰		
ACTH ₁₋₃₉	6.8 x 10 ⁻¹⁰		
α-MSH	1.5 x 10 ⁻⁹		
γ₂-MSH	> 10 ⁻⁷		
ACTH ₄₋₁₀	> 10 ⁻⁷		

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A 1.6kb Apal-HindIII fragment comprising the entire coding sequence of the mouse MC5-R melanocortin receptor disclosed in Example 2G above was cloned into the pcDNA/neo expression vector (Invitrogen) after PCR amplification of the lambda phage clone. This plasmid was stably introduced into human 293 cells by calcium phosphate co-precipitation using standard techniques, and plasmid-containing cells selected in G418 containing media. Specificity of receptor-hormone binding was assayed using adenylate cylcase activity as described above. The MC5-R receptor was found to couple to adenylate cyclase activity having the following pattern of agonist affinity:

$$\alpha$$
-MSH > β MSH > > γ -MSH

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The results of adenylate cyclase activity assays (AC) and cAMP-dependent β -galactosidase (β -gal) assay are shown in Figure 13. EC₅₀ values for each of the tested MC5-R receptor agonists are: α -MSH = 1.7 x 10⁻⁹M, and β MSH = 5 x 10⁻⁹M.

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A. Use of a reporter gene construct to detect melanocortin receptor binding

Recombinant cells prepared as described above were used to characterize receptor binding of melanocortin analogues as described in co-owned and copending U.S. Serial No. 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996, incorporated by reference herein

10 reference herein.

Briefly, melanocortin receptor analogues were tested using a colorimetric assay developed by some of the instant inventors (Chen *et al.*, 1995, *Analyt. Biochem.* 226: 349-354, incorporated by reference). A series of concatamers of the synthetic oligonucleotide:

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5'-GAATTCGACGTCACAGTATGACGGCCATGG-3'

(SEQ ID No.: 19)

was produced by self-annealing and ligation, producing a tandem tetramer. This fragment was cloned upstream of a fragment of the human vasoactive intestinal peptide (-93 to +152; see Fink et al., 1988, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85: 6662-6666). This hybrid promoter was then cloned upstream of the β -galactosidase gene from E. coli. The resulting plasmid construct is shown in Figure 14 and termed pCRE/ β -gal.

Transient transfection of the pCRE/ β -gal plasmid into mammalian cells was described as follows. Cells at between 40-60% confluency (corresponding to about 1.5 million cells/ 6cm tissue culture dish) were incubated with Opti-MEM (GIBCO) And then contacted with a pCRE/ β -gal-lipofectin complex which was prepared as follows. 3 μ g plasmid DNA and 20 μ L lipofectin reagent (GIBCO) were each diluted into 0.5mL Opti-MEM media and then mixed together. This mixture was incubated at room temperature for 15-20 min, and then the mixture (1mL) added to each 6cm plate. Transfected plates were incubated at 37°C for 5-24h, after which

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time the plates were washed and incubated with DMEM media (GIBCO) and the cells split equally into a 96-well culture plate.

To assay melanocortin receptor analogue binding, human 293 cells expressing each of the melanocortin receptors MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R and MC5-R, and mouse Y1 cells expressing the MC2-R receptor, were transiently transfected with pCRE/β-gal as described above and assayed as follows. Two days after transfection, cells were stimulated with hormones specific for each receptor or hormone analogue by incubation for 6h at 37°C with a mixture comprising 10⁻¹² to 10⁻⁶ M hormone or analogue, 0.1mg/mL bovine serum albumin and 0.1mM IBMX in DMEM. The effect of hormone or analogue binding was determined by βgalactosidase assay according to the method of Felgner et al. (1994, J. Biol. Chem. 269: 2550-2561). Briefly, media was aspirated from culture wells and 50 L lysis buffer (0.25M Tris-HCl, pH 8, 0.1% Triton X-100) added to each well. Cell lysis was enhanced by one round of freezing and thawing the cell/lysis buffer mixture. 10µL aliquots were sampled from each well for protein determination using a commercially-available assay (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA). The remaining 40µL from each well was diluted with 40µL phosphate buffered saline/ 0.5% BSA and 150µL substrate buffer (60mM sodium phosphate, 1mM MgCl₂, 10mM KCl, 5mM βmercaptoethanol, 200μg/μL o-nitrophenyl-β-D-galactopyranoside) added. Plates were incubated at 37°C for 1h and then absorbance at 405nm determines using a 96well plate reader (Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA). A series of two-fold dilutions ranging from 20ng of purified \(\beta\)-galactosidase protein (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) were assayed in parallel in each experiment to enable conversion of OD_{405} to known quantities of β -galactosidase protein.

The results of these experiments are shown in Figures 15A and 15B. These Figures show the results of a β -galactosidase assay described above using cells expressing each of the MC1-R, MC3-R, MC4-R or MC5-R receptors and contacted with α MSH or a variety of α MSH analogues. These results showed that a particular MSH analogue (termed SHU9119; *see* co-owned and co-pending USSN 08/706,281, filed September 4, 1996, incorporated by reference herein) had relatively weak agonist activity for both human MC3-R and MC4-R receptors.

These results demonstrated the development of a colorimetric assay for cAMP accumulation as the result of melanocortin receptor binding by agonists or antagonists.

EXAMPLE 4

Preparation of Recombinant Targeting Vectors for Producing Mice Bearing a Homozygous Disruption of the MC5-R Gene Locus

The cloned mouse MC5-R gene disclosed in Example 2G above was used to prepare recombinant genetic constructs for producing mice bearing homozygous disruption of the MC5-R gene locus as follows.

The purified MC5-R lambda genomic clone disclosed above contains the entire coding sequence, plus 5kb of 5' noncoding sequence, as well as 7.8 kb of 3' noncoding sequence. A 9 kb SacI fragment was subcloned from the lambda genomic clone, shown schematically in Figure 16, for subsequent manipulations. To make the "knock-out" construct, a 650 bp Apa I/MscI fragment that extends from -200 bp upstream (5') of the initiation codon to the middle of the TM3 domain of the receptor (at position 402 in SEQ ID No.:17) was replaced with the PGK-Neo cassette (as described in Rudnicki et al., 1992, Cell 71: 383-390). The PGK-TKcassette (Rudnicki et al., 1992, ibid.) was placed 5' to the MC5-R coding sequence and with a transcriptional orientation opposite to the MC5-R gene sequences. The PGK-TK cassette was included in the construct to enrich homologous recombinants by negative selection against the thymidine kinase from herpes simplex virus (see Capecchi, 1989, Science 244: 1288-1292). The resulting vector, termed pMC5-RKO thus contains 4.5 kb of MC5-R specific sequences derived from the 5' noncoding sequence of the cloned gene, and 1.2 kb comprising about 600 bp of MC5-R coding sequence and 600 bp of 3' untranslated sequences that are potential sites for gene disruption homologous recombination. The targeting construct can be linearized with XhoI.

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EXAMPLE 5

Use of Recombinant Targeting Vectors for Producing Mice Bearing a Homozygous Disruption of the MC5-R Gene Locus

1. Transfection of ES cells and blastocyst injection

Twenty-five μg of *Xho*I-linearized pMC5-RKO DNA was electroporated into 10^7 AK47 ES cells (which can be obtained, for example, from the American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, MD). The cells were selected with G418 (400-1000 $\mu g/mL$) and gancyclovir at 24 hour after transfection. Individual colonies were identified one week after selection and expanded in 96 well plates. DNA from individual clones was screened by PCR analysis for homologous recombinants, using one primer specific for sequences outside of pMC5-RKO:

5'-CTAGGATAGGGGAACTGTAGT-3'

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SEQ ID No.: 20

and one primer specific for sequences comprising the PGK-Neo cassette:

5' -GAGGATTGGGAAGACAATAGCA-3'

SEO ID No. 21

under PCR conditions essentially equivalent to those disclosed in Example 1. Positive clones were confirmed by Southern analysis using MC5-R flanking sequences from both the 5' and 3' extents of the MC5-R gene, each comprising a naturally-occurring *EcoRI* site as shown in Figure 16 as a probe. About 20% of clones obtained were found to be homologous recombinants using these methods. Selected clones were injected into blastocysts from C57/BL/6 mice, prepared using standard techniques (*see* Hogan *et al.*, 1986, Manipulating the Mouse Embryo: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press: New York), and several chimeric mice were produced. Three independent chimeric lines were found to be transmitted through germline. Chimeric male mice were then breed with C57BL/6 or 129Sv mice: one clone was bred with 129Sv to produce inbred offspring, and the other two were backcrossed 7 - 9 generations with C57BL/6J mice to make congenic strains. Germline transmission of the "knockout" allele comprising pMC5-RKO sequences was identified using PCR analysis as described for ES cell analysis and in addition using a wild-type specific primer:

5' - ATGAACTCCTCCTCCACCCTG-3'

SEQ ID No.: 22

and confirmed by Southern analysis. Heterozygotic males and females were breed to generate homozygous mutant mice. Continuous backcrossing with C57/BL/6 was carried out to obtain C57/BL/6-like congenic lines.

The deficiency of MC5-R was confirmed by Southern hybridization (Figures 17A and 17B), northern analysis (Figure 17C) and 125 I-Nle⁴, D-Phe⁷- α -MSH (NDP- α -MSH) binding on crude plasma membranes from skeletal muscle (Figures 17D and 17E). MC5-R null mice were found to reproduce and thrive normally. There was no obvious anatomic or behavioral abnormalities in these mice, indicating that MC5-R expression is not essential for normal development and daily life under laboratory conditions.

2. Water retention assay and temperature measurement

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Homozygous MC5-R "knockout" mice were analyzed to determine the physiological effects of homozygous MC5-R gene disruption using a variety of behavioral and physiological tests; in the absence of gross developmental or physical deformities, it was recognized that these effects could be subtle. No readily visible phenotype was apparent in mice bred to contain a homozygous deletion of the MC5-R, in either the C57Bl/6J or 129Sv strain backgrounds. Appearance, behavior, growth, muscle mass, adipose mass, reproduction, and basal and stress-induced corticosterone, glucose, and insulin levels in these animals were indistinguishable from heterozygous or wild-type litter mates.

In order to identify more subtle physiological phenotypes in these "knockout" mice, the animals were examined for their response to exogenous melanocortin peptides in a number of adrenocortical-independent biological assays. Melanocortin peptide activities examined included anti-inflammatory activity of α -MSH in carageenan-induced ear-swelling (Macaluso et al., 1994, J. Neurosci. 14: 2377-2382), enhanced recovery from sciatic nerve crush by α -MSH (Bijlsma, 1983, Eur. J. Pharmacol. 92: 231-236; Strand et al., 1993, Rev. Neurosci. 4: 321-363), and α -MSH induced inhibition of stress-induced analgesia (Belcher et al., 1982, Brain Res. 247: 373-377; Smock and Fields, 1981, Brain Res. 212: 202-206). The anti-inflammatory action of α -MSH is preserved in these mice, indicating MC5-R is not

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essential for this function. The mutant mice also have an apparently intact hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis, suggesting MC5-R in the adrenal cortex is not essential for the stress response. Mutant mice also were also indistinguishable from wild-type mice in swim-induced anagelsia, excluding the involvement of MC5-R in the proposed inhibition of morphine-induced analgesia by ACTH (as suggested by Smock and Fields, 1981, *ibid*.). In summary, none of these assays produced identifiable differences between the wild type and knockout animals.

During a stress-induced analgesia assay in which the mice were made to swim for three minutes to activate the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis (Mogil, 1996, *Physiol. Behav.* 59: 123-132), it was observed that the knockout animals had absorbed more water, needed more time for their fur to dry than their wild-type counterparts, and remained wet for a longer period of time than litter mate controls (shown in Figures 18A and 18B). This effect was then quantitated, and it was found that wild-type mice dried their hair in about 25 minutes on average after a 3 minutes swim at 32°C; in contrast, it took MC5-RKO mice more than 40 minutes to dry (shown in Figure 18B), resulting in severe thermoregulatory defects in the animal as well (Figures 18C and 18D).

To investigate this behavior, homozygous MC5-R "knockout" mice were-subjected to a water retention/ body temperature assay as follows. Core temperature was measured using an inserted rectal thermoprobe 2.5 cm inside each mouse. Five to 10 minutes prior to swim, the core temperature of each mouse was read 3 times to obtain the baseline. Mice were then weighed and immediately let swim in 32°C water for 3 minutes. Mice were then removed from the water and placed on absorbent paper towels for about 5 seconds to eliminate excessive water. Mice were then weighed, their core body temperature recorded, and put into an empty Plexiglas cage. Weight and temperature was measured every five minutes for half an hour thereafter. The weight of absorbed water was calculated by subtracting pre-swim weight from the post-swimming weight.

These results indicated that the longer drying times found in the "knockout" mutant mice was due to impaired water repulsion by mouse skin and hair. MC5-RKO mice absorbed almost twice as much water as the wild type controls (results

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shown in Figure 18B). The water absorbed by MC5-RKO mice totaled about 5% of their body mass, while that absorbed by wild-type controls amounted to only 2.5%. (The rate of evaporation, however, was comparable.) This defect in water repulsion appeared to be related to surface lipids, as shown by a reconstitution experiment using wildtype mice. Removal of skin and hair lipids from normal mice by washing the mice with a 5% SDS solution (termed "shampooed" mice) increased water absorption to 9% of body weight in wild type mice (see Figure 18B), similar to the levels found in MC5-R knockout mutant mice.

These initial results prompted investigations on thermoregulation in the mice. Thermoregulation is a complex process involving many physiological responses including basal metabolic rate, vasodilation and constriction, shivering nonshivering thermogenesis mediated by brown fat stores, sweating, panting, and lastly, insulation via the skin and coat. The addition to their obvious role in repelling water, dermal lipids (such as are produced by the sebaceous and Harderian glands) are critical for supporting the optimal insulating capabilities of the mammalian coat. For example, removal of the Harderian gland, a large bi-lobed gland found in the retroorbital region in most vertebrates, results in approximately 40-50% reduction in lipids extractable from the coat (Thiessen and Kittrell, 1980, Physiol. Behav. 24: 417-424). This, in turn, results in a dramatic thermoregulatory defect in the gerbil (Thiessen and Kittrell, 1980, ibid.), reducing core body temperature 4.6° in response to a cold water bath in the Harderian ectomized animal compared to 1.6° in the sham operated control. Likewise sebaceous lipids play an important thermoregulatory role, as has been demonstrated in the muskrats (Harlow, 1984, Physiol. Zool. 57: 349-356).

The MC5-RKO and wild type animals had the same core body temperature at an ambient temperature at 26°C. However, the colonic temperature decreased 2°C during a 3 minute swim at 32°C in mutant mice, compared to 0.7° C in the wild-type controls. In addition, colonic temperature dropped another 0.5°C before the mutant mice recovered. No further decline in body core temperature was observed in wild-type mice, whereas the colonic temperature in MC5-RKO mice was still 1.5°C below normal. This more severe and longer lasting hypothermia

could be mimicked in wild-type mice by washing the mice with detergent as above (see Figure 18C).

Lipids in the mammalian coat were also found to be important for optimal regulation in cold air as well as cold water. Mutant and wild-type mice were challenged with cold air (using a cold room held at 5-6°C), and mutant and wild-type exhibited remarkable differences in their colonic temperature. Wild-type mice increased core temperature slightly at the beginning of the cold room incubation, and maintained above-normal body temperature for at least 3 hours. In contrast, MC5-RKO bearing knockout mice underwent a mild hypothermia (shown in Figure 18D). As before, air hypothermia could be produced in wild-type mice by removing surface lipids with a 5% SDS solution (see Figure 18D). These results suggested that MC5-RKO knockout mice differing from their litter mates solely by virtue of homologous genetic disruption of the MC5-R gene locus resulted in an impairment in water repulsion as well as a defect in the insulating properties of the coat in the mutant mice due to a deficiency in the production secretion or distribution of hair and/or skin lipids.

3. Hair lipids extraction and analysis

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The results shown in Section 2 above prompted an analysis of hair lipids from wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice as follows.

Hair lipids was extracted as described by Ebling (1975, J. Endocrinol. <u>66</u>: 407-412) with modifications. Seventy to 100 mg of hair from each mouse was extracted with 20mL of acetone for 15 minutes. The extractants were filtered and the hair was then washed with an additional 20mL acetone. The pooled filtrant was let evaporate to about 5mL in a chemical hood. The acetone was then transferred to a tared aluminum foil boat and evaporated to dryness. The aluminum foil was then reweighed. The amount of hair lipids obtained using this procedure was calculated by subtracting the predetermined weight of the foil from the weight obtained after evaporation of the lipid-extracting acetone. Hair lipids (100-150 μ g) were recovered from the aluminum foil, loaded on a Silica gel 60 plate (Aldrich, Milwaukee, WI) and resolved by hexane/benzene (55:45 v/v). The positions of the

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lipids on the plate were developed by spraying the plate with sulfuric acid/ethanol (1:1) mixture, then charred in an 150°C oven until appropriate color development occurred (as described by Stewart & Downing, 1991, Adv. Lipid Res. 24: 263-301).

A 15-20% reduction of acetone-extractable material from hair lipids was found in both male and female MC5-RKO mice (shown in Figure 18E). It was recognized that it is not unexpected to observe reduced sebum production by females because sebaceous gland activity is up regulated by androgens (found in greater concentrations in males; Thody et al., 1976, J. Endocrinol. 71: 279-288). In order to determine whether the observed results represented a general or specific deficiency, surface lipids were analyzed by thin layer chromatography (TLC). A dramatic reduction of sterol esters in both male and female mutants was observed (Figure 18F).

Sterol esters constitute more than 26% of the total acetone extractable lipids in wild-type mice, but only about 13% in the mutants (Figure 18F). There was no other significant difference in other sebum components. As sterol esters are the most hydrophobic species of sebaceous lipids, their deficiency is consistent with impaired water repulsion seen in MC5-RKO mice.

4. MC5-R receptor expression in exocrine glands

A. The MC5-R receptor is expressed at high levels in multiple exocrine glands

The defect observed in MC5-RKO mutant mice disclosed above suggested a direct role for MC5-R receptor in sebaceous gland production. Expression of MC5-R receptor in sebaceous or other exocrine glands as not been previously reported. In order to assay for MC5-R expression in exocrine, specifically sebaceous, glands, in situ hybridization was performed on skin sections from wild-type mice, using a radiolabeled 650bp ApaI/MscI MC5-R fragment as a probe (see Figure 16). Results of these assays are shown in Figure 19A, Panels A through D. Highly-abundant expression of MC5-R mRNA was found in hair follicle-associated sebaceous glands in wild-type skin (Figure 19A, Panel A and Panel C), but not in MC5-RKO mutant mice (Figure 19A, Panel B). Specificity of the observed

hybridization was confirmed by performing *in situ* hybridization on wild-type skin sections using a sense-oriented MC5-R probe (Figure 19A, Panel D).

In view of the results disclosed above, and in view of previously disclosed findings that suggested an effect of α MSH on sebum production, the finding of MC5-R mRNA in sebaceous gland inspired a comprehensive search for MC5-R expression in other exocrine tissues including preputial gland (a specialized sebaceous gland), lacrimal gland and Harderian gland, as well as in a variety of previously-characterized tissues. In agreement with previous studies, MC5-R mRNA was detected at moderate levels in muscle and skin, and was present at very low levels in spinal cord, brain stem, and adipose tissues (Figure 19B). Strikingly, however, MC5-R mRNA was found to be extremely abundant in the Harderian gland, lacrimal gland and preputial gland (Figure 19C). The level of MC5-R in preputial gland is approximately 30 times higher than that in the skin (comparison shown in Figure 19D).

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B. Functional MC5 receptor protein is expressed in multiple exocrine glands and in spinal cord - Characterization of functional membrane receptor

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The results disclosed above demonstrated MC5-R mRNA expression in exocrine glands of wild-type mice and not of MC5-RKO knockout mutant mice. To further and complement analysis of the differences between wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant knockout mice, various exocrine glands and tissues were surveyed for functional MC5-R gene expression by performing agonist binding studies on membrane preparations. In these experiments, crude membranes were made from wild-type and "knockout" mouse exocrine glands and tissues as follows. Tissues were minced and homogenized with a Polytron. The homogenized tissue mixture was then subjected to 500 x g by centrifugation, and the resulting supernatant fluid of the tissue homogenate was then centrifuged at $100,000 \times g$ for 40 minutes at 4°C. The pellet was rinsed twice with PBS and protein content determined using the method of Bradford (1976, *Analyt. Biochem.* 72: 248-254). Specific ¹²⁵I-NDP- α -MSH binding by membrane preparations containing $100 \mu g$ of protein was determined as described in co-owned U.S. Patent 5,532,247, issued July 2, 1996,

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incorporated by reference herein. To monitor ligand-induced cAMP production, excised tissues of interest were minced and incubated in DMEM containing 0.1 mg/mL BSA in the presence or absence of ligand for 20 minutes before being frozen in liquid nitrogen. cAMP was extracted with 60% ethanol and measured by RIA as described (Chen et al., 1995, ibid.). Protein in ethanol extracted pellets was determined by the method of Bradford as above. Protein assay studies were complemented by northern analysis of tissue-extracted mRNA in tissues showing differential MC5-R gene expression in wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice.

The results of these radioligand binding studies are shown in Figures 20A and 20B. As was previously observed in skeletal muscle membrane, there was strong and specific ¹²⁵I-DNP-α-MSH binding in crude plasma membranes prepared from Harderian gland, preputial gland, and lacrimal gland of wild-type mice (Figure 20A). When these binding experiments were conducted in membranes obtained from heterozygous MC5-RKO mice, intermediate levels of specific binding was found. Specific binding was absent in membranes from MC5-RKO mice, indicating the absence of significant levels of expression of MC1-R, MC3-R and MC4-R in these tissues (Figure 20A).

Specific ¹²⁵I-NDP-α-MSH binding was also seen in the spinal cord. The decreased binding in the heterozygotes and mutant mice indicates that MC5-R is the major melanocortin receptor in spinal cord (Figure 20B). The residual binding may be due to MC4-R in this tissue.

To further examine the functionality of the MC-5R receptor in these tissues, exocrine glands were exercised and cultured *in vitro*. Application of physiological levels of α -MSH and/or NDP- α -MSH to such cultures markedly stimulated cAMP synthesis in the cultures, further demonstrating the presence of functional receptor protein (as illustrated by preputial gland culture results, shown in Figures 20C and 20D). There was less stimulation of cAMP synthesis by the synthetic ligand NDP- α -MSH, suggesting that NDP- α -MSH may be a partial agonist at the MC5-R. This is consistent with data obtained from MC5-R expressed in HEK293 cells (Chen, unpublished data). The inhibition of α -MSH induced cAMP production by NDP- α -MSH suggests the compound may act as a mixed agonist/antagonist.

Thus, creation of the MC5-R knockout mouse disclosed herein permitted examination of the role of the MC5-R receptor in the *in vivo* expression of MSH binding sites, as assessed by the binding of radiolabeled ¹²⁵I-NDP- α -MSH. Particularly striking was the high level of MC5-R binding sites expressed in spinal cord and skeletal muscle (Figure 17D). These results suggest a role for the MC5-R receptor in mediating the effects of melanocortin peptides on nerve regeneration (Bijlsma, 1983, *ibid*), muscle satellite cell proliferation (Cossu, 1989, *Develop. Biol.* 131: 331-336; De Angelis *et al.*, 1992, *Develop. Biol.* 151: 446-458), and muscle deuse deconditioning. These results also provide a pharmacological rationale for observed but unexplained regulation of the production of sebaceous and preputial lipids by exogenous α -MSH (Thody *et al.*, 1976, *ibid.*).

5. MC5 Receptor Regulates Protein Secretion by the Lacrimal Gland

A. Measurement of lacrimal gland protein discharge

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The lacrimal gland is the major source for the protein-rich aqueous layer of tear film. This gland is known to secrete both electrolytes and proteins, largely under parasympathetic control (Dartt, 1994, Adv. Exp. Med. Biol. 350: 1-9). To assess the consequences of MC5-R ablation on lacrimal gland secretion, we measured melanocortin-stimulated protein secretion in the lacrimal gland fragments in culture.

Protein discharge from lacrimal glands was determined as described by Jahn (1982, *ibid*.). Mouse lacrimal glands were dissected and each cut into four pieces. The explants were incubated in 10 mL of Kreb-Ringer bicarbonate buffer (KRB) in the presence of 25 μCi ³H-leucine for 20 minutes in a 37°C chamber gassed with 5% CO₂ and 95% O₂. The tissues were rinsed three times with KRB and further incubated in KRB for 60 minutes to allow incorporation of radioactivity into protein. After another rinsing with KRB, 8 pieces of labeled tissue (corresponding to 2 glands) were put into one well of a 12-well plate, each well containing 2 mL of KRB. Buffer (0.5 mL) was taken from each well before returning the plate into the chamber. Fifteen minutes later, another 0.5 mL aliquot of buffer was removed from each well. Hormones to be tested were added to a final concentration of 50 nM, and

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the plate further incubated in the chamber for 30 minutes, after which time 0.5 mL of buffer was again removed from each well. Radioactivity produced in each sample was measured by liquid scintigraphy. The rate of protein discharge for each sample during the last 30 minutes of the assay was calculated as the net increase of radioactivity in the period divided by that in the previous 15 minutes. The relative secretion rate was computed by setting the rate of the wild-type control to be 1.

These results are shown in Figures 21A and 21B. After lacrimal gland acini were pulsed with 3 H-leucine, and then allowed further incubation to incorporate the radioactivity into newly synthesized proteins, the rate of protein secretion was determined by monitoring the rate of radioactivity discharge from the cells. Incubation of these tissue cultures with physiological levels of α -MSH and ACTH increased protein secretion about 80% in cultures prepared from glands of wild-type mice, but this increase was not observed in lacrimal gland cultures prepared from MC5-RKO mice (Figure 21A). The rate of melanocortin stimulated protein discharge in gland cultures prepared from wild-type mice increased in a dose dependent fashion, with an EC₅₀ of 4 nM for ACTH (Figure 21B).

It has been previously demonstrated that both ACTH and α -MSH increase total protein discharge 3-4 fold from lacrimal glands in culture (Jahn, 1982, *ibid.*; Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 181: 71-82), and high affinity melanocortin binding sites have been demonstrated in lacrimal glands (Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *ibid.*; Tatro and Reichlin, 1987, *ibid*). Furthermore, α -MSH stimulated peroxidase secretion in the lacrimal gland about as well as epinephrine and carbamylcholine, and was not blocked by atropine, propranolol, or phentolamine, suggesting that α -MSH is an independent secretagogue (Leiba *et al.*, 1990, *ibid.*). The results disclosed herein establish that the receptor mediating these effects is the MC5-R, and the ACTH can stimulate total protein secretion from the lacrimal gland with an EC₅₀ of 4nM (shown in Figure 21B).

6. MC5-R receptor is required for porphyrin production in the Harderian gland

A. Measurement of Harderian Porphyrins

Another gland assayed in wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice was the Harderian gland. The Harderian gland is a bilobular retro-orbital structure that secrets primarily two products, lipid and prophyrins, into the eyes. These products are spread onto the body surface by grooming. Most vertebrates, with the exception of man, have Harderian glands, although their functional role is not well understood. In rodents, the lipids components are distributed along the coat of the animal by grooming behaviors, and play an important thermoregulatory role, suggesting that MC5-R receptors are expressed in these glands in view of the results disclosed in Sections 2 and 3 above. The porphyrins absorb UV light, and coat the cornea, where they could play some role in phototransduction. The porphyrins are co-secreted in abundance with lipids and thus an excellent marker of Harderian function.

Porphyrins in the Harderian gland were extracted as described (Margolis, 1971, Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 145: 2377-2382). Briefly, the glands were removed from individual mice and homogenized by a motorized micro-pestle in 0.5 mL of an acetic acid/diethylether mixture (1:4). The homogenate was then centrifuged at $3000 \times g$ for 5 min and the resulting supernatant fluid removed and transferred to another assay tube. The centrifugation pellet was extracted twice more under identical conditions, with the resulting supernatant pooled for further analysis. Pooled extractants were concentrated in a speed-vac (Sorval) to dryness. The samples were then dissolved in 50μ L chloroform and 0.95mL of a 0.25N HCl solution added to each assay tube. Porphyrin production from these samples were characterized by scanning spectrophotometry and spectrofluorimetry using an excitation wavelength of 402 nm.

The results of these assays are shown in Figures 22A and 22B. Under UV light illumination, bright fluorescence was seen in organic extractants from Harderian glands of wild-type and heterozygous males; in contrast, no fluorescence was visible in those from mutant males (Figure 22A). The extracted substances displayed two-peak absorbance at 402 and 560 nm, which confirmed the presence of porphyrins in wild-type Harderian glands. There was almost no visible absorbance at the two peaks in extracts using Harderian glands from MC5-RKO

mutant mice, suggesting a nearly complete porphyrin deficiency in these animals (Figure 22B). In addition, porphyrins from Harderian glands of wild-type and MC5-RKO mice were analyzed by scanning spectrofluorimetry, wherein one quarter of the total extract from individual mice was scanned in 0.2 mL of a 0.25 N HCl solution, using an excitation wavelength of 402 nm. For prophyrins isolated from Harderian glands of wild-type mice, a peak emission wavelength was found at 602 nm, characteristic for porphyrins. However, when excited with light at 402 nm, very little fluorescence at 602 nm was emitted from the mutant samples, compared with similar fluorescence emission obtained from porphyrins produced by Harderian glands from either wild-type or heterozygotic mice.

These results indicate that knockout mutant MC5-RKO mice are deficient in lacrimal, preputial and Harderian gland secretion, and that receptor occupancy by MC5-R receptors in these tissues *in vivo* regulates exocrine gland function in mammals independently of ACTH glucocorticosteroid stimulatory pathways or mechanisms. Ablation of MC5-R gene expression by homologous recombination resulted in the loss of detectable 125 I-NDP- α -MSH binding to Harderian gland, lacrimal gland and preputial gland, as well as spinal cord and skeletal muscle. The binding sites demonstrated here were also shown to be effectively coupled to-adenylate cyclase (Figures 20A and 20B) in Harderian, lacrimal, and preputial glands: in some cases, as much as a twenty-fold increase in intracellular cAMP could be seen following stimulation with 50 nM α -MSH. Thus, other biological activities of melanocortin peptides acting at these tissues are likely to be mediated by MC5-R.

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EXAMPLE 6

Use of Exocrine Gland Tissue from Wild-type and MC5-R "Knockout"

Mice in Assays for Detecting and Characterizing MC5-R Receptor

<u>Agonists and Antagonists</u>

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The results obtained above provide reagents and methods for detecting and characterizing MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists for use in modulating exocrine gland function.

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In one example of the assays provided by this invention, primary cell cultures of exocrine gland tissue obtained from wild-type and MC5-RKO mutant mice as described in Example 5 above are prepared and the MC5-R receptor binding activity of test compounds for agonist and antagonist activity are assayed by cAMP assay and competition binding assays as described in Example 3. EC₅₀ values derived in these assays are used in comparison with known MC5-R agonist and antagonists to characterize the agonist/antagonist behavior of a particular test compound.

Specificity of MC5-R receptor agonists or antagonists as detected and characterized herein is also determined using a panel of recombinant cells or cells naturally expressing a melanocortin receptor gene or combinations thereof, provided that the panel comprises cells expressing each of the melanocortin receptor genes. cAMP assays, radiolabeled ligand binding assays, competitive assays and reportergene assays as described in Example 3 are used to determine the degree of specific binding to melanocortin receptors for such agonist and antagonist compounds.

These methods provide important means and assays for developing MC5-R specific agonists and antagonists to regulate exocrine gland function. Exocrine gland function is known to be coordinately controlled by the parasympathetic and sympathetic nervous system, with the former exerting a stimulatory effect in most cases. Hormonal regulation of exocrine gland function is also well characterized, such as the stimulation of sebaceous gland function by androgens involved in acne (Ebling et al., 1975, ibid.; Thody et al., 1976, ibid.). The disclosure herein that synthesis of lipids, proteins, and porphyrins in a variety of exocrine glands is regulated by the MC5-R suggests the existence of a coordinated system for hormonal control of exocrine gland function by melanocortin peptides.

Previous data on sebaceous gland function showed that testosterone and α -MSH are synergistic in their control of sebum production (Ebling et al., 1975, ibid.; Thody et al., 1976, ibid.). Hypophysectomy in mice (Ebling et al., 1969, J. Endocrinol. 45: 257-263), and hypopituitarism in man (Goolamali et al., 1974, J. Invest. Dermatol. 63: 253-255) decreases sebum production. The MC5-R is approximately five fold more sensitive to α -MSH than ACTH, and furthermore,

ablation of the neurointermediate lobe, the source of circulating α -MSH, decreases sebum production as much as a total hypophysectomy, without decreasing testosterone levels (Thody and Shuster, 1973, *ibid.*). These data suggest that pituitary α -MSH regulates sebaceous gland function (Thody and Shuster, 1973, *ibid.*).

On the other hand, MC5-R remains very sensitive to ACTH, with EC₅₀ values reported in the low nM range (Fathi et al., 1995, Neurochem. Res. 20: 107-113; Gantz et al., 1994, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 200: 1214-1220; Griffon et al., 1994, Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 200: 1007-1014; Labbe et al., 1994, ibid.), comparable to the 1nM EC₅₀ reported for activation of adenylate cyclase by the adrenocortical ACTH receptor, MC2-R (Buckley and Ramachandran, 1981, ibid.). While the affinity of the MC5-R for ACTH is somewhat lower than the MC2-R, activation of steroidogenic gene expression by the ACTH-R can be detected at ACTH levels as low as 10^{-11} M, several logs below half-maximal receptor occupancy (Simpson, 1988). Furthermore, since circulating α -MSH is generally not detectable in man, a pituitary-derived melanocortin peptide involved in the regulation of sebaceous glands would, by necessity, have to be ACTH. Consequently, the existence of a hypothalamic-pituitary-exocrine axis would suggest the possibility of exocrine gland regulation by the stress axis.

Stress-mediated regulation of exocrine gland function via elevated levels of ACTH acting by binding to the MC5-R is also interesting with regard to pheromonally-mediated mammalian behaviors. This could provide a physiological pathway for the effects of stress on conspecific mammalian behavior via the regulation of olfactory cues, i.e., a mechanism for animals to "smell" stress. Preputial, Harderian, and sebaceous glands are all known to produce pheromones, and all express high levels of functional MC5-R (Figures 20A and 20B). α-MSH has been demonstrated to stimulate the release of a preputial odorant into the urine which stimulates aggressive attacks (Nowell et al., 1980, ibid). The preputial gland is also known to produce pheromones that function as sexual attractants (Bronson and Caroom, 1971, ibid.; Chipman and Alberecht, 1974, ibid.; Orsulak and

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Gawienowski, 1972, *ibid.*), as does the Harderian gland (Thiessen and Harriman, 1986, *J. Comp. Physiol.* 100: 85-87).

The development of MC5-R receptor agonists and antagonists using the methods of the instant invention thus provides means and assays for developing compounds useful for the alleviation of a variety of exocrine gland-related diseases, dysfunctions and abnormal conditions, such methods being unavailable prior to the instant disclosures.

It should be understood that the foregoing disclosure emphasizes certain specific embodiments of the invention and that all modifications or alternatives equivalent thereto are within the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

- (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
 - (i) APPLICANT:
 - (A) NAME: State of Oregon
 - (B) STREET: Oregon Health Sciences Univ., 3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road
 - (C) CITY: Portland
 - (D) STATE: Oregon
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) POSTAL CODE (ZIP): 97201-3098
 - (G) TELEPHONE: 503-494-8200
 - (H) TELEFAX: (503)-494-4729
 - (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Mammalian Melanocortin Receptor and Uses
 - (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 22
 - (iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25 (EPO)
 - (v) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 APPLICATION NUMBER:
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
 - (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..35
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

GAGTCGACCT GTGYGYSATY RCNNTKGACM GSTAC

35

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

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	(ii)	MOLE	CULE T	YPE:	DNA	(ge	nomi	c)								
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	(ix)	FEAT	URE:													
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		(B)	LOCAT	ION:	960	12	60									
			•													
	(xi)	SEQU	ENCE D	ESÇR:	PTI	ON:	SEQ :	ID N	0:3:							
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			Met 1	Ser	Thr	Gln	Glu 5	Pro	Gln	Lys	Ser	Leu 10	Leu	Gly		
			_				3					10				
TCT	CTC	AAC T	CC AAT	GCC	ACC	TCT	CAC	CTT	GGA	CTG	GCC	ACC	AAC	CAG	9	98
Ser	Leu	Asn S	er Asn	Ala	Thr		His	Leu	Gly	Leu	Ala	Thr	Asn	Gln		
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														GAG Glu	290
													AGA Arg	GTG Val	338
													TGT Cys	GGC Gly	386
													GAC Asp	CGC Arg 140	434
									His				ACG Thr 155	CTG Leu	482
													ATC Ile		530
													CTG Leu	CTC Leu	578
													ATT Ile	CTG Leu	626
													ATT	GCC Ala 220	674
CTC	CAC	AAA	AGG	CGG	CGG								CTC		722
	His		Arg 225	Arg	Arg	Ser	Ile	Arg 230	Gln	GIÀ	Pne	Сув	235	_	
Leu	GCC	Lys	225 CTT	ACT	ATC	CTT	CTG	230 GGG	ATT	TTC	TTC	CTG	235 TGC Cys		770

255	260	265
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С		1260
(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTES (A) LENGTH: 315 (B) TYPE: amino (D) TOPOLOGY: 1: (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: pro	RISTICS: amino acids acid inear	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPT	ION: SEQ ID NO:4:	
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Asn Ala Thr Ser His Leu Gly 1	Leu Ala Thr Asn Gln 25	Ser Glu Pro Trp 30
Cys Leu Tyr Val Ser Ile Pro 2	Asp Gly Leu Phe Leu 40	Ser Leu Gly Leu 45
Val Ser Leu Val Glu Asn Val	Leu Val Val Ile Ala	Ile Thr Lys Asn

90

Arg Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Tyr Phe Ile Cys Cys Leu Ala Leu

Ser Asp Leu Met Val Ser Val Ser Ile Val Leu Glu Thr Thr Ile Ile

65

Leu Leu Leu Glu Val Gly Ile Leu Val Ala Arg Val Ala Leu Val Gln
100 105 110

- Gln Leu Asp Asn Leu Ile Asp Val Leu Ile Cys Gly Ser Met Val Ser 115 120 125
- Ser Leu Cys Phe Leu Gly Ile Ile Ala Ile Asp Arg Tyr Ile Ser Ile 130 135 140
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- Phe Ile Thr Tyr Tyr Lys His Thr Ala Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Val Thr 180 185 190
- Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Ala Leu Met Ala Ile Leu Tyr Ala His Met 195 200 205
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- Arg Arg Ser Ile Arg Gln Gly Phe Cys Leu Lys Gly Ala Ala Thr 225 230 235 240
- Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro Phe Phe 245 250 255
- Leu His Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Gln His Pro Thr Cys Ser
- Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Leu Leu Ile Val Leu Ser 275 280 285
- Ser Thr Val Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg 290 295 300

Met Thr Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Leu Cys Ser Trp 305 310 315

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1633 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR

(B) LOCATION: 1..461

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) LOCATION: 462..1415

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR

(B) LOCATION: 1416..1633

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

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CTG CTG GTG AGC GGG ACG AAC GTG CTG GAG ACG GCCGTC ATC CTC CTG Leu Leu Val Ser Gly Thr Asn Val Leu Glu Thr Ala Val Ile Leu Leu 85 90 95 100	761
CTG GAG GCC GGT GCA CTG GTG GCC CGG GCT GCG GTG CTG CAG CTG Leu Glu Ala Gly Ala Leu Val Ala Arg Ala Ala Val Leu Gln Gln Leu	809

105 110 115 GAC AAT GTC ATT GAC GTG ATC ACC TGC AGC TCC ATG CTG TCC AGC CTC 857 Asp Asn Val Ile Asp Val Ile Thr Cys Ser Ser Met Leu Ser Ser Leu 120 125 TGC TTC CTG GGC GCC ATC GCC GTG GAC CGC TAC ATC TCC ATC TTC TAC 905 Cys Phe Leu Gly Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Ser Ile Phe Tyr 135 140 GCA CTG CGC TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC CTG CCG CGG GCG CCG CGA GCC 953 Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Pro Arg Ala 150 155 GTT GCG GCC ATC TGG GTG GCC AGT GTC GTC TTC AGC ACG CTC TTC ATC 1001 Val Ala Ala Ile Trp Val Ala Ser Val Val Phe Ser Thr Leu Phe Ile 170 175 1049 Gly Tyr Tyr Asp His Val Ala Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Val Val Phe Phe 185 190 CTG GCT ATG CTG GTG CTC ATG GCC GTG CTG GAC GTC CAC ATG CTG GCC 1097 Leu Ala Met Leu Val Leu Met Ala Val Leu Asp Val His Met Leu Ala CGG GCC TGC CAG CAC GCC CAG GGC ATC GCC CGG CTC CAC AAG AGG CAG 1145 Arg Ala Cys Gln His Ala Gln Gly Ile Ala Arg Leu His Lys Arg Gln 215 220 CGC CCG GTC CAC CAG GGC TTT GGC CTT AAA GGC GCT GTC ACC CTC ACC 1193 Arg Pro Val His Gln Gly Phe Gly Leu Lys Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr 235 ATC CTG CTG GGC ATT TTC TTC CTC TGC TGG GGC CCC TTC TTC CTG CAT 1241 Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro Phe Phe Leu His 250 255 CTC ACA CTC ATC GTC CTC TGC CCC GAG CAC CCC ACG TGC GGC TGC ATC 1289 Leu Thr Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Glu His Pro Thr Cys Gly Cys Ile 265 270 TTC AAG AAC TTC AAC CTC TTT CTC GCC CTC ATC ATC TGC AAT GCC ATC 1337 Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Ala Leu Ile Ile Cys Asn Ala Ile 280 285 ATC GAC CCC CTC ATC TAC GCC TTC CAC AGC CAG GAG CTC CGC AGG ACG 1385 Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe His Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Arg Thr 295 300 CTC AAG GAG GTG CTG ACA TGC TCC TGG TGA GCGCGGTGCA CGCGCTTTAA 1435 Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Thr Cys Ser Trp *

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TTG	AAGCO	GCG (BACC	CTTCT	rg go	CAGO	GAGG	GGT	CCT	CAA	AACI	CCAG	GC A	GGAC	TTCT	2
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Thr	Pro	Thr	Ala 20	Ile	Pro	Gln	Leu	Gly 25	Leu	Ala	Ala	Asn	Gln 30	Thr	Gly	
Ala	Arg	Cys 35	Leu	Glu	Val	Ser	Ile 40	Ser	Asp	Gly	Leu	Phe 45	Leu	Ser	Leu	
Gly	Leu 50	Val	Ser	Leu	Val	Glu 55	Asn	Ala	Leu	Val	Val 60	Ala	Thr	Ile	Ala	
Lys 65	Asn	Arg	Asn	Leu	His 70	Ser	Pro	Met	Tyr	Cys 75	Phe	Ile	Cys	Cys	Leu 80	•
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Val	Ile	Leu	Leu 100	Leu	Glu	Ala	Gly	Ala 105	Leu	Val	Ala	Arg	Ala 110	Ala	Val	
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Leu	Ser 130	Ser	Leu	Cys	Phe	Leu 135	Gly	Ala	Ile	Ala	Val 140	Asp	Arg	Tyr	Ile	
Ser 145	Ile	Phe	Tyr	Ala	Leu 150	Arg	Tyr	His	Ser	Ile 155	Val	Thr	Leu	Pro	Arg 160	٠
Ala	Pro	Arg	Ala	Val 165	Ala	Äla	Ile	Trp	Val 170	Ala	Ser	Val	Val	Phe 175	Ser	
Thr	Leu	Phe	Ile	Gly	Tyr	Tyr	Asp	His	Val	Ala	Val	Leu	Leu	Сув	Leu	

Val Val Phe Phe Leu Ala Met Leu Val Leu Met Ala Val Leu Asp Val 200 His Met Leu Ala Arg Ala Cys Gln His Ala Gln Gly Ile Ala Arg Leu 215 His Lys Arg Gln Arg Pro Val His Gln Gly Phe Gly Leu Lys Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Phe Leu Cys Trp Gly Pro 250 Phe Phe Leu His Leu Thr Leu Ile Val Leu Cys Pro Glu His Pro Thr 260 265 Cys Gly Cys Ile Phe Lys Asn Phe Asn Leu Phe Leu Ala Leu Ile Ile 280 Cys Asn Ala Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe His Ser Gln Glu 295 Leu Arg Arg Thr Leu Lys Glu Val Leu Thr Cys Ser Trp * 310 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7: (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 2012 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR (B) LOCATION: 1..693 (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: CDS (B) LOCATION: 694..1587 (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR (B) LOCATION: 1588..2012 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7: ACAACACTTT ATATATATTT TTATAAATGT AAGGGGTACA AAGGTGCCAT TTTGTTACAT 60 GGATATACCG TGTAGTGGTG AAGCCTGGGC TTTTAGTGTA TCTGTCATCA GAATAACATA 120 CGTGTTACCC ATAGGAATTT CTCATCACCC GCCCCTCCA CCCTTCGAGT CTCCAATGTC 180 CATTCCACAC TCTATATCCA CGTGTATGCA TATAGCTCCA CATATAAGTG AGAACATGTA 240

GTATTTGACT TCCTCTTTCT GAGTTATTTC ACTTTGATAA TGGCCTCCAC TTCCATCCAT	300
GTTGCTGCAA AAGACATGAC CTTATTCTTT TTGATAGCTG GGGAGTACTC CATTGTGTAT	360
ATGTACCACA TTTCTTTATC CATTCACCCA TTGAGAACAC TTAGTTGATT CCATATCTTT	420
GCTATTGTCA CTAGTGCTGC AATAAACATA CATGTGCAGG CTCCTTCTAA TATACTGATT	480
TATATTTTAT GGAGAGAGAT AGAGTTCTTA GCGAGTGTGC TGTTTATTTC TAGTGTACTT	540
GCAACTAATA TTCTGTATAC TCCCTTTAGG TGATTGGAGA TTTAACTTAG ATCTCCAGCA	600
AGTGCTACAA GAAGAAAAGA TCCTGAAGAA TCAATCAAGT TTCCGTGAAG TCAAGTCCAA	660
GTAACATCCC CGCCTTAACC ACAAGCAGGA GAA ATG AAG CAC ATT ATC AAC TCG Met Lys His Ile Ile Asn Ser 1 5	714
TAT GAA AAC ATC AAC AAC ACA GCA AGA AAT AAT TCC GAC TGT CCT CGT Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn Asn Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Arg 10 15 20	762
TGT GTT TTG CCG GAG GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA ATT TCC ATT GTT GGA GTT Cys Val Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Ile Ser Ile Val Gly Val 25 30 35	810
TTG GAG AAT CTG ATC GTC CTG CTG GCT GTG TTC AAG AAT AAG AAT CTC Leu Glu Asn Leu Ile Val Leu Leu Ala Val Phe Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu 40 45 50 55	858
CAG GCA CCC ATG TAC TTT TTC ATC TGT AGC TTG GCC ATA TCT GAT ATG Gln Ala Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met 60 65 70	906
CTG GGC AGC CTA TAT AAG ATC TTG GAA AAT ATC CTG ATC ATA TTG AGA Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Ile Ile Leu Arg 75 80 85	954
AAC ATG GGC ATA CTC AAG CCA CGT GGC AGT TTT GAA ACC ACA GCC CAT Asn Met Gly Ile Leu Lys Pro Arg Gly Ser Phe Glu Thr Thr Ala His 90 95 100	1002
GAC ATC ATC GAC TCC CTG TTT CTG CTC TCC CGT CTT GGC TCC ATC TTC Asp Ile Ile Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Leu Ser Arg Leu Gly Ser Ile Phe 105 110 115	1050
GAC CTG CTC GTG ATT GCT GCG GAC CGC TAC ATC ACC ATC TTC CAC GCA Asp Leu Leu Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala 120 125 130 135	1098
CTG CGG TAC CAC AGC ATC GTG ACC ATG CGC CGC ACT GTG GTG GTG CTT Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Met Arg Arg Thr Val Val Val Leu 140 145 150	1146
ACG GTC ATC TGG ACG TTC TGC ACG GGG ACT GGC ATC ACC ATG GTG ATC Thr Val lle Trp Thr Phe Cys Thr Gly Thr Gly Ile Thr Met Val lle	1194

			155					160					165	i		
TTC Phe	TCC Ser	CAT His 170	CAT His	GTG Val	CCC Pro	CAC His	GTG Val 175	Ile	ACC Thr	TTC Phe	ACG Thr	TCG Ser 180	Leu	TTC Phe	CCG Pro	1242
							Сув							CTG Leu		1290
														AAC Asn		1338
														TTC Phe 230		1386
														CCA Pro		1434
														GGC Gly		1482
														TTC Phe		1530
														AGC Ser	AGG Arg 295	1578
TAC Tyr		TAG *	AATG	GCTG	AT C	CCTG	GTTI	T AC	BAATO	CATO	GGA	ATA	CGT			1627
TGCC	AAGI	GC C	AGAA	TAGI	G TA	ACAT	TCC	ACA	AATG	CCA	GTGC	TCCI	CA C	TGGC	CTTC	C 1687
TTCC	CTAA	TG G	ATGC	AAGO	A TO	ACCO	:ACC#	A GCT	AGTO	TTT	CTGA	ATAC	TA 1	rggcc	'AGGAI	A 1747
CAGT	CTAI	TG I	AGGG	GCAA	C TC	TAT	TGT	ACT	GGAC	AGA	TAAA	ACGI	GT A	GTAA	AAGAI	A 1807
GGAT	AGAA	TA C	CAAAC	TATI	A GO	TACA	LAAA C	TAP	TTAC	GTT	TGCA	TTAC	TT A	ATGAC	AAATO	3 1867
CATT	'ACTI	TT G	CACC	AATC	T AC	TAAA	ACAG	CAA	TAAA	TAAL	TCAA	GGGC	TT 1	rgggc	TAAGO	3 1927
CAAA	GAC1	TG C	TTTC	CTGI	G GA	CATI	'AACA	A AGO	CAGI	TCT	GAGG	CGGC	CT 1	TTCCA	GGTGC	G 1987
AGGC	CATI	GC A	AGCCA	(TTA	C AC	SAGT						•				2012

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 297 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:
- Met Lys His Ile Ile Asn Ser Tyr Glu Asn Ile Asn Asn Thr Ala Arg

 1 10 15
- Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Arg Cys Val Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe 20 25 30
- Thr Ile Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Ile Val Leu Leu Ala 35 40 45
- Val Phe Lys Asn Lys Asn Leu Gln Ala Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys 50 55 60
- Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Leu Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu 65 70 75 80
- Asn Ile Leu Ile Ile Leu Arg Asn Met Gly Ile Leu Lys Pro Arg Gly 85 90 95
- Ser Phe Glu Thr Thr Ala His Asp Ile Ile Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Leu 100 105 110
- Ser Arg Leu Gly Ser Ile Phe Asp Leu Leu Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg 115 120 125
- Tyr Ile Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Val Thr Met 130 135 140
- Arg Arg Thr Val Val Leu Thr Val Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Thr Gly 155 150
- Thr Gly Ile Thr Met Val Ile Phe Ser His His Val Pro His Val Ile 165 170 175
- Thr Phe Thr Ser Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Val Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu 180 185 190
- Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Trp His Thr Arg Lys Ile Ser 195 200 205
- Thr Leu Pro Arg Ala Asn Met Lys Gly Ala Met Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu 210 215 220
- Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu 225 230 235 240

Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ser Asn Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser 245 250 Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Met Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Val Ile Asp 265 Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Asp Ala Phe Lys 280 Lys Met Ile Phe Cys Ser Arg Tyr Trp * (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9: (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 1108 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR (B) LOCATION: 1..132 (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: CDS (B) LOCATION: 133..1026 (ix) FEATURE: (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR (B) LOCATION: 1027..1106 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9: GGGGCCAGAA AGTTCCTGCT TCAGAGCAGA AGATCTTCAG CAAGAACTAC AAAGAAGAAA AGATTCTGGA GAATCAATCA AGTTTCCTGT CAAGTTCCAG TAACGTTTCT GTCTTAACTG 120 CACACAGGAA AG ATG AAA CAC ATT CTC AAT CTG TAT GAA AAC CTC AAC 168 Met Lys His Ile Leu Asn Leu Tyr Glu Asn Leu Asn AGT ACA GCA AGA AAT AAC TCA GAC TGT CCT GCT GTG ATT TTG CCA GAA 216 Ser Thr Ala Arg Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Ala Val Ile Leu Pro Glu 20 GAG ATA TTT TTC ACA GTA TCC ATT GTT GGG GTT TTG GAG AAC CTG ATG 264 Glu Ile Phe Phe Thr Val Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Met 35

											•
	CTT Leu										312
	TTC Phe								_		360
	ATT Ile									CTC Leu	408
	CCT Pro										456
	TTC Phe 110										504
	GCT Ala										552
	ATG Met	 			-			-	 	Arg	600
	TGC Cys										648
_	ACA Thr										696
	CTG Leu 190							. Arg			744
	_						Arg			ACA Thr 220	792
	ACT Thr									Val	840
	CAT His								Суз	GCC Ala	888
	TAC	TCC Ser									936

			GAC Asp			-	Tyr										984
			AAA Lys														1026
AATO	SATTO	GGT (CCT	SATT	T AC	GAG	CCACA	A GGC	ATA	ract	GTC	AGGGI	ACA (GAGT	AGCC	GTG	1086
ACAC	BACC	AAC A	AACA	CTAG	GA C	r											1108

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 297 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

Met Lys His Ile Leu Asn Leu Tyr Glu Asn Leu Asn Ser Thr Ala Arg

1 5 10 15

Asn Asn Ser Asp Cys Pro Ala Val Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Ile Phe Phe 20 . 25 30

Thr Val Ser Ile Val Gly Val Leu Glu Asn Leu Met Val Leu Leu Ala
35 40 45

Val Ala Lys Asn Lys Met Leu Gln Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Ile Cys
50 55 60

Ser Leu Ala Ile Ser Asp Met Leu Gly Ser Met Tyr Lys Ile Leu Glu 65 70 75 80

Asn Val Leu Ile Met Phe Lys Asn Met Gly Tyr Leu Glu Pro Arg Gly 85 90 95

Ser Phe Glu Ser Thr Ala Asp Asp Val Val Asp Ser Leu Phe Ile Leu 100 105 110

Ser Leu Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Ser Leu Ser Val Ile Ala Ala Asp Arg 115 120 125

Tyr Thr Thr Ile Phe His Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Arg Ile Met Thr Pro 130 135 140

Ala Pro Cys Pro Arg His Leu Thr Val Leu Trp Arg Gly Cys Thr Gly
145 150 155 160

Ser Gly Ile Thr Ile Val Thr Phe Ser His His Val Pro Thr Val Ile

165 170 175

Ala Phe Thr Ala Leu Phe Pro Leu Met Leu Ala Phe Ile Leu Cys Leu 180 185 190

Tyr Val His Met Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Ser His Thr Arg Arg Thr Pro 195 200 205

Ser Leu Pro Lys Ala Asn Met Arg Gly Ala Val Thr Leu Thr Val Leu 210 215 220

Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Val Leu His Val Leu 225 230 235 240

Leu Met Thr Phe Cys Pro Ala Asp Pro Tyr Cys Ala Cys Tyr Met Ser 245 250 255

Leu Phe Gln Val Asn Gly Val Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ala Ile Ile Asp 260 265 270

Pro Phe Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Pro Glu Leu Arg Val Ala Phe Lys
275 280 285

Lys Met Val Ile Cys Asn Cys Tyr Gln * 290 295

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1338 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..297
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 298..1269
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR
 - (B) LOCATION: 1270..1338
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

TCAC	GAGC	GAC :	AGGG	GATG.	AG A	CAGG	CTGG'	T CAC	GAGT	CTGC	ACTO	GATT	GTT (GGAG	ACGCA	4	120
AGG	AAAG'	TTT '	TTTC:	ratg:	rc T	CCAA	CCTC	d da	CTCC:	rccc	CCG	TTTC'	rct (CTGG	AGAAA	2	180
TAA	AATG:	rag i	ACTG	GACA	GC A	TCCA	CAAG	A GA	AGCA	CCTA	GAA	GAAG.	TTA	TTTT	TTTCC	2	240
AGC/	AGCT	rgc '	rcag	GACC	CT G	CAGG	AGCT	G CA	GCCG	GAAC	TGG'	TCCC	GCC (GATA!	ACC.		297
														CCT Pro	AAC Asn		345
				Pro					Ala					GGC Gly			393
														GCA Ala			441
														GTG Val		Ť.	489
														AGC Ser			537
														ACC Thr 95			585
														CAA Gln		. •	633
														TCC Ser			681
														TAC Tyr			729
														AGG Arg			777
														TGC Cys 175			825
									Lys					TGC Cys			873

															ATC	921
												Ile	GCG Ala		CTG Leu	969
									-				ATG Met		GGG Gly 240	1017
													TGC Cys		GCG Ala	1065
													ACC Thr 270		CCC Pro	1113
													GTT Val		ATC Ile	1161
													CGC Arg		CTG Leu	1209
-													AAT Asn			1257
	GTG Val			GAAC	ccc	GA G	GAGO	STGT	rc cz	ACGGC	CTAG(CA)	AGAGA	AGAA		1309
AAGO	'AAT	CT (AGGT	rgag!	AC AC	CAGA	AGGG									1338

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 323 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

Met Asn Ser Ser Cys Cys Pro Ser Ser Ser Tyr Pro Thr Leu Pro Asn 1 5 10 15

Leu Ser Gln His Pro Ala Ala Pro Ser Ala Ser Asn Arg Ser Gly Ser 25 Gly Phe Cys Glu Gln Val Phe Ile Lys Pro Glu Val Phe Leu Ala Leu 40 Gly Ile Val Ser Leu Met Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Leu Ala Val Val Arg Asn Gly Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Leu Leu Ser Leu 70 75 Leu Gln Ala Asp Leu Leu Val Ser Leu Ser Asn Ser Leu Glu Thr Ile Met Ile Val Val Ile Asn Ser Asp Ser Leu Thr Leu Glu Asp Gln Phe 105 Ile Gln His Met Asp Asn Ile Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Leu 120 Val Ala Ser Ile Cys Asn Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Val Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His Ser Ile Met Thr Val Arg Lys 155 145 Ala Leu Ser Leu Ile Val Ala Ile Trp Val Cys Cys Gly Ile Cys Gly 170 Val Met Phe Ile Val Tyr Ser Glu Ser Lys Met Val Ile Val Cys Leu Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Ala Met Val Leu Leu Met Gly Thr Leu Tyr Ile 200 His Met Phe Leu Phe Ala Arg Leu His Val Gln Arg Ile Ala Ala Leu 215 Pro Pro Ala Asp Gly Leu Ala Pro Gln Gln His Ser Cys Met Lys Gly Ala Val Thr Ile Thr Ile Leu Leu Gly Val Phe Ile Phe Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Phe Leu His Leu Val Leu Ile Ile Thr Cys Pro Thr Asn Pro Tyr Cys Ile Cys Tyr Thr Ala His Phe Asn Thr Tyr Leu Val Leu Ile 280 Met Cys Asn Ser Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Phe Arg Ser Leu 295 290 Glu Leu Arg Asn Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Leu Cys Gly Cys Asn Gly Met 310 315

Asn Val Gly *

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
 - (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..30
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate oligonucleotide primer (sense)"
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

GAGTCGACCR CCCATGTAYT DYTTCATCTG

30

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
 - (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: misc feature
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..30
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate oligonucleotide primer (sense)"
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

CAGAATTCGG AARGCRTAKA TGARGGGGTC

30

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1671 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA to mRNA	
(ix) FEATURE:	
(A) NAME/KEY: 5'UTR	
(B) LOCATION: 1393	
(ix) FEATURE:	
(A) NAME/KEY: CDS	
(B) LOCATION: 3941389	
(ix) FEATURE:	
(A) NAME/KEY: 3'UTR	
(B) LOCATION: 13901671	
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:	
AGCTTCCGAG AGGCAGCCGA TGTGAGCATG TGCGCACAGA TTCGTCTCCC AATGGCATGG	60
CAGCTTCAAG GAAAATTATT TTGAACAGAC TTGAATGCAT AAGATTAAAG TTAAAGCAGA	120
AGTGAGAACA AGAAAGCAAA GAGCAGACTC TTTCAACTGA GAATGAATAT TTTGAAGCCC	180
AAGATTTTAA CGTGATGATG ATTAGAGTCG TACCTAAAAG AGACTAAAAA CTCCATGTCA	240
	240
AGCTCTGGAC TTGTGACATT TACTCACAGC AGGCATGGCA ATTTTAGCCT CACAACTTTC	300
AGACAGATAA AGACTTGGAG GAAATAACTG AGACGACTCC CTGACCCAGG AGGTTAAATC	360
AATTCAGGGG GACACTGGAA TTCTCCTGCC AGC ATG GTG AAC TCC ACC CGT	414
Met Val Asn Ser Thr His Arg	
GGG ATG CAC ACT TCT CTG CAC CTC TGG AAC CGC AGC AGT TAC AGA CTG	462
Gly Met His Thr Ser Leu His Leu Trp Asn Arg Ser Ser Tyr Arg Leu	
10 15 . 20	
CAC AGC AAT GCC AGT GAG TCC CTT GGA AAA GGC TAC TCT GAT GGA GGG	510
His Ser Asn Ala Ser Glu Ser Leu Gly Lys Gly Tyr Ser Asp Gly Gly	
25 30 35	
TGC TAC GCG CAA CTT TTT GTC TCT CCT GAG GTG TTT GTG ACT CTG GGT	558
Cys Tyr Ala Gln Leu Phe Val Ser Pro Glu Val Phe Val Thr Leu Gly	
40 45 50 55	
GTG ATC AGC TTG TTG GAG AAT ATC TTA GAG ATT GTG GCA ATA GCC AAG	606
Val Ile Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Glu Ile Val Ala Ile Ala Lys	

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		TTA Leu						Ser			GTG Val	750
		AAT Asn									GCA Ala 135	798
		AGC Ser									Ile	846
		CTC Leu 155				Met				Val	GGG Gly	894
		AGT Ser									TTG Leu	942
		TAC Tyr									ACC Thr	990
		ACC Thr									CTG Leu 215	1038
		GCC Ala									GGC Gly	1086
		ATC Ile 235									TTG Leu	1134
		ATT Ile			Val				Phe		CTC Leu	1182
		TTC Phe										1230
		CAC His									TCA Ser 295	1278
		CCT Pro										1326
		GAG Glu									GAC Asp	1374

1429

1489

1549

1609

1669

1671

			315					320					325			
			AGA Arg		TAAA	TGGG	GA C	AGAG	CACG	C AA	TATA	GGAA	CAT	CCAT	'AAG	٠.
AGA	CTTT	TTC 1	ACTC	TAC	CC T	ACCTO	BAATA	A TTC	CTACI	TCT	GCAA	CAGO	TT T	CTCI	TCCGT	
GTA	GGT	ACT (3GTT(GAGA'	ra To	CAT	rgtgi	T AAA	ATTT?	AGC	CTAI	GATI	TT I	'AATC	AGAAA	<u>.</u>
AAA:	rgcc	CAG 1	rctc1	rgta:	rt A	TTC	CAATO	C TCA	TGCI	ACT	TTTI	TGGC	CA I	'AAAA'	TATGA	
ATC:	ratg:	TA T	raggi	rtgti	AG GO	CACTO	TGG?	A TTI	TACA!	LAAA	GAAA	AGTO	CT I	ATTA	AAAGA	
TT							•		*							
(2)	TNFO	ORMA	rion	FOR	SEO	ID 1	NO:16	ń:								
(-,			SEQUI						•							
		, _ ,	(A)		NGTH	: 332	2 am:	ino a	acida	5						
			• • • •	то							-					
	(:	Li) M	MOLE	CULE	TYPI	3: pı	rote	in			-					
	()	ci) S	SEQUI	ENCE	DES	CRIP	CION	: SE	Q ID	NO:	16:					
Met 1	Val	Asn	Ser	Thr 5	His	Arg	Gly	Met	His 10	Thr	Ser	Leu	His	Leu 15	Trp	
Asn	Arg	Ser	Ser 20	Tyr	Arg	Leu	His	Ser 25	Asn	Ala	Ser	Glu	Ser 30	Leu	Gly	
Lys	Gly	Tyr 35	Ser	Asp	Gly	Gly	Cys 40	Tyr	Ala	Gln	Leu ,	Phe 45	Val	Ser	Pro	
Glu	Val 50	Phe	Val	Thr	Leu	Gly 55	Val	Ile	Ser	Leu	Leu 60	Glu	Asn	Ile	Leu	
Glu 65	Ile	Val	Ala	Ile	Ala 70	Lys	Asn	Lys	Asn	Leu 75	His	Ser	Pro	Met	Tyr 80	
Phe	Phe	Ile	Сув	Ser 85	Leu	Ala	Val	Ala	Двр 90	Met	Leu	Val	Ser	Val 95	Ser	
Asn	Gly	Ser	Glu 100	Thr	Ile	Ile	Ile	Thr 105	Leu	Leu	Asn	Arg	Thr 110	Asp	Thr	
Asp	Ala	Gln 115	Ser	Phe	Thr	Val	Asn 120	Ile	Asp	Asn		Ile 125	Asp	Ser	Val	
Ile	Сув 130	Ser	Ser	Leu	Leu	Ala 135	Ser	Ile	Сув	Ser	Leu 140	Leu	Ser	Ile	Ala	

Val Asp Arg Tyr Phe Thr Ile Phe Tyr Ala Leu Gln Tyr His Asn Ile

145 150 155 160

Met Thr Val Lys Arg Val Gly Ile Ser Ile Ser Cys Ile Trp Ala Ala 165 170 175

Cys Thr Val Ser Gly Ile Leu Phe Ile Ile Tyr Ser Asp Ser Ser Ala 180 185 190

Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Thr Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Ala Leu Met 195 200 205

Ala Ser Leu Tyr Val His Leu Phe Leu Met Ala Arg Leu His Ile Lys 210 215 220

Arg Ile Ala Val Leu Pro Gly Thr Gly Ala Ile Arg Gln Gly Ala Asn 225 230 235 240

Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu Thr Ile Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Val Val 245 250 255

Cys Trp Ala Pro Phe Leu His Leu Ile Phe Tyr Ile Ser Cys Pro 260 265 270

Gln Asn Pro Tyr Cys Val Cys Phe Met Ser His Phe Asn Leu Tyr Leu 275 280 285

Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser Ile Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu 290 295 300

Arg Ser Gln Glu Leu Arg Lys Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Ile Ser Ser Tyr 305 310 315 320

Pro Leu Gly Gly Leu Cys Asp Leu Ser Ser Arg Tyr 325 330

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 978 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..975
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

ATG AAC TCC TCC TCC ACC CTG ACT GTA TTG AAT CTT ACC CTG AAC GCC

Met 1	Asn	Ser	Ser	Ser 5	Thr	Leu	Thr	Val	Leu 10		Leu	Thr	Leu	Asn 15	Ala		
тса	GAG	GAT	GGC	ידידע	מחים	GGA	TCA	አልጥ	CTC	מממ	አልሮ	AAG	יייטייי	ביתיים	acc		0.0
															Ala		96
JCI	014	nsp	20	110	Deu	GLY	SCI.	25	val	Був	ABII	nys	30		ALA		
TGT	GAA	GAA	ATG	GGC	ATT	GCC	GTG	GAG	GTG	TTC	CTG	ACC	CTG	GGT	CTC		144
															Leu	•	
_		35		_	•	•	40					45		•			
GTC	AGC	CTC	TTA	GAG	AAC	ATC	CTG	GTC	ATT	GGG	GCC	ATA	GTA	AAG	AAC	:	192
Val	Ser	Leu	Leu	Glu	Asn	Ile	Leu	Val	Ile	Gly	Ala	Ile	Val	Lys	Asn		
	50					55					60		•		•		
AAA	AAC	CTG	CAC	TCA	CCC	ATG	TAC	TTC	TTT	GTG	GGC	AGC	TTA	GCC	GTG	:	240
Lys	Asn	Leu	His	Ser	Pro	Met	Tyr	Phe	Phe	Val	Gly	Ser	Leu	Ala	Val		
65					70	*				75					80		
			V.	*				•									
		•															
acc	G A C	አጥር፤	CTG	CTC	אממ	בעדת	TCC	አአጥ	acc	TOC	CNC	a com	OTIC!	700	2002		
			Leu														288
ستن	тор	Mec	anca.	85	JUL	MCC	Jer	ABII	90	тър	GIU	1111	val	95	TTE		
			•	03			•		,,,					93			
TAC	TTG	CTA	AAT	AAT	AAA	CAC	CTG	GTG	ATA	GCC	GAC	ACC	TTT	GTG	CGA	3	336
															Arg		
			100					105					110		_		
CAC	ATC	GAC	AAC	GTG	TTC	GAC	TCC	ATG	ATC	TGC	ATC	TCT	GTG	GTG	GCC	3	884
His	Ile	Asp	Asn	Val	Phe	Asp	Ser	Met	Ile	Cys	Ile	Ser	Val	Val	Ala		
		115					120					125					•
TO C	እጥር	maa	AGT	സസവ	CTC	acc	א מייני	ccc	CTTC	CAT	N.C.C	መአር	א מטערו	3.00	3.000		
			Ser			_										4	132
DCI	130	Cys	DCI	DCu	LCu	135	110	AIG	Val	voħ	140	171	116	TIII	TTE		
TTC	TAT	GCC	TTG	CGC	TAC	CAC	CAC	ATC	ATG	ACC	GCG	AGG	CGC	TCG	GGG	4	180
Phe	Tyr	Ala	Leu	Arg	Tyr	His	His	Ile	Met	Thr	Ala	Arg	Arg	Ser	Gly		
145					150					155					160		
GTG	ΔΤα	איזירי [.]	GCC	TGC	Δጥጥ	TGG	ACC	ጥጥር	ጥርር	מידמ	AGC	TGC	GGC	יזייית	ርም		528
															Val	-	240
Vai		110	ALU	165			****	1110	170	110	DCL	Cys	CLY	175	VQI		
TTC	ATC	ATC	TAC	TAT	GAG	TCC	AAG	TAT	GTG	ATC	ATT	TGC	CTC	ATC	TCC	5	576
Phe	Ile	Ile	Tyr	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Lys	Tyr	Val	Ile	Ile	Cys	Leu	Ile	Ser		
			180					185		•			190				
	mm <	mm~	100	3.00	OTTO	mm~	mer	8 m~	ar	ma	CVP.C	ma ~	* #=	a			
			ACC													6	524
Met	rue		Thr	met	ьец	rne		met	val	ser	ьeu	_	тте	Hls	met		
		195					200					205					
TTC	CTC	CTG	GCC	CGG	AAC	CAT	GTC	AAG	CGG	ATA	GCA	GCT	TCC	CCC	AGA		572
			Ala													· ·	
	210					215		•			220				_		

							ATT Ile			720
							TTC Phe			768
							TGC Cys 270	 		816
							TGC Cys			864
						Glu	ATG Met			912
							CCT Pro		٠	960
 CTT Leu	 	 TAA				•		٠.		978

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 325 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

Met Asn Ser Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asn Leu Thr Leu Asn Ala
1 5 10 15

Ser Glu Asp Gly Ile Leu Gly Ser Asn Val Lys Asn Lys Ser Leu Ala 20 25 30

Cys Glu Glu Met Gly Ile Ala Val Glu Val Phe Leu Thr Leu Gly Leu 35 \checkmark 45

Val Ser Leu Leu Glu Asn Ile Leu Val Ile Gly Ala Ile Val Lys Asn 50 55 60

Lys Asn Leu His Ser Pro Met Tyr Phe Phe Val Gly Ser Leu Ala Val

65 70 75 80

Ala Asp Met Leu Val Ser Met Ser Asn Ala Trp Glu Thr Val Thr Ile 85 90 95

Tyr Leu Leu Asn Asn Lys His Leu Val Ile Ala Asp Thr Phe Val Arg 100 105 110

His Ile Asp Asn Val Phe Asp Ser Met Ile Cys Ile Ser Val Val Ala 115 120 125

Ser Met Cys Ser Leu Leu Ala Ile Ala Val Asp Arg Tyr Ile Thr Ile 130 135 140

Phe Tyr Ala Leu Arg Tyr His His Ile Met Thr Ala Arg Arg Ser Gly
145 150 155 160

Val Ile Ile Ala Cys Ile Trp Thr Phe Cys Ile Ser Cys Gly Ile Val 165 170 175

Phe Ile Ile Tyr Tyr Glu Ser Lys Tyr Val Ile Ile Cys Leu Ile Ser 180 185 190

Met Phe Phe Thr Met Leu Phe Phe Met Val Ser Leu Tyr Ile His Met 195 200 205

Phe Leu Leu Ala Arg Asn His Val Lys Arg Ile Ala Ala Ser Pro Arg 210 215 220

Tyr Asn Ser Val Arg Gln Arg Thr Ser Met Lys Gly Ala Ile Thr Leu 225 230 235 240

Thr Met Leu Leu Gly Ile Phe Ile Val Cys Trp Ser Pro Phe Phe Leu 245 250 255

His Leu Ile Leu Met Ile Ser Cys Pro Gln Asn Vál Tyr Cys Ser Cys 260 265 270

Phe Met Ser Tyr Phe Asn Met Tyr Leu Ile Leu Ile Met Cys Asn Ser 275 280 285

Val Ile Asp Pro Leu Ile Tyr Ala Leu Arg Ser Gln Glu Met Arg Arg 290 295 300

Thr Phe Lys Glu Ile Val Cys Cys His Gly Phe Arg Arg Pro Cys Arg 305 310 315 320

Leu Leu Gly Gly Tyr 325

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs

		(B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single	
		(D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii)	MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
	(ix)	FEATURE:	
		(A) NAME/KEY: misc_feature	
		<pre>(B) LOCATION: 132 (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /function = "Degenerate</pre>	
	(xi)	SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:	
GAAT	TCGA	CG TCACAGTATG ACGGCCATGG	30
(2)	INFO	RMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:	
	(i)	SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs	
		(B) TYPE: nucleic acid	
		(C) STRANDEDNESS: single	
		(D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii)	MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
	(xi)	SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:	
CTAG	GATA	GG GGAACTGTAG T	21
	•		-
(2)	INFO	RMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:	
	(i)	SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 22 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
	(ii)	MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)	
	(xi)	SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:	
GAGG	ATTG	GG AAGACAATAG CA	22

- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:
 - (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

ATGAACTCCT CCTCCACCCT G

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WE CLAIM:

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1. A method of assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing a first primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing the melanocortin receptor;
- (b) providing a second primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from the tissue of subpart (a) and derived from an animal carrying a disrupted genetic sequence encoding the melanocortin receptor wherein the disrupted allele cannot produce the melanocortin receptor in the cell;
- (c) contacting the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b) with the test compound;
- (d) detecting binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) and the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b); and
- (e) comparing binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with binding of the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).
- 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the test compound is detectably labeled.
- 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the test compound is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.
- 4. The method of Claim 1 wherein binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) is detected by assaying for a metabolite produced in the cells that bind the test compound.
- 5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the metabolite is cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP).
- 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element transcription factor binding site operatively

linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite.

- 7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encodes β -galactosidase.
- 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R.
- 9. The method of Claim 1, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.
- 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a homozygous condition.
 - 11. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - (a) contacting the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subparts (a) and
 (b) with a detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist prior to contacting the eukaryotic cell cultures with the test compound;
 - (b) comparing binding of the detectably labeled melanocortin agonist or antagonist in the presence and absence of the test compound for each of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subparts (a) and (b); and
 - (c) comparing inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (a) with inhibition of binding of the detectably-labeled melanocortin receptor agonist of antagonist by the test compound to cells of the eukaryotic cell culture of subpart (b).
- 12. The method of Claim 11 wherein the detectably-labeled, previously-characterized melanocortin receptor agonist or antagonist is detectably labeled with a radioisotope, a fluorescent label, a hapten, an enzymatic label or an antigenic label.
- 13. The method of Claim 11 wherein binding of the test compound to the cells of the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) is detected by assaying for a metabolite produced in the cells that bind the test compound.

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14. The method of Claim 13 wherein the metabolite is cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP).

- 15. The method of Claim 11, wherein the eukaryotic cell cultures of subpart (a) or subpart (b) further comprise a recombinant expression construct encoding a cAMP responsive element transcription factor binding site operatively linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that produces a detectable metabolite.
- 16. The method of Claim 15 wherein the nucleic acid sequence encodes β -galactosidase.
- 17. The method of Claim 11, wherein the melanocortin receptor is MC5-R.
- 18. The method of Claim 11, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.
- 19. The method of Claim 11, wherein the genetically disrupted melanocortin receptor gene is in a homozygous condition.
- 20. A recombinant expression construct comprising a portion of a nucleic acid encoding a melanocortin receptor gene, covalently linked to a nucleic acid comprising 5' or 3' untranslated sequence flanking the melanocortin receptor gene, a first selectable marker covalently linked immediately adjacent to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, and a second selectable marker covalently linked distal to the portion of the nucleic acid encoding the melanocortin receptor gene, wherein introduction of the recombinant expression construct into a eukaryotic cell produces a cell having a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by the recombinant expression construct.
- 21. A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the melanocortin gene is MC5-R.
- 22. A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the first selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a *neo*, hyg^R , or gpt gene.

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23. A recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20 wherein the second selectable marker comprises a nucleic acid encoding a herpesvirus thymidine kinase gene.

- 24. A eukaryotic cell transformed with the recombinant expression construct of Claim 20, wherein the cell comprises a genetically disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene by the recombinant expression construct.
- 25. A eukaryotic cell according to Claim 24, wherein the cell is an embryonic stem cell.
- 26. A transgenic animal comprising a cell in a tissue of the animal wherein an endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is disrupted by a recombinant expression construct according to Claim 20.
- 27. A transgenic animal according to Claim 26 wherein the cell is a germ cell.
- 28. A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R.
- 29. A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.
- 30. A transgenic animal according to Claim 27 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is a homozygous condition.
- 31. A transgenic animal according to Claim 26 wherein the cell is an exocrine gland cell.
- 32. A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the cell is a lacrimal gland cell, a Harderian gland cell, a sebaceous gland cell or a preputial gland cell.
- 33. A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is MC5-R.
- 34. A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is in a heterozygous condition.
- 35. A transgenic animal according to Claim 31 wherein the disrupted endogenous melanocortin receptor gene is a homozygous condition.

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36. A method of assaying a test compound for binding to a mammalian melanocortin receptor, the method comprising the following steps:

- (a) providing a cell panel comprising a first mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC1-R receptor, a second mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC2-R receptor, a third mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC3-R receptor, a fourth mammalian cell comprising a recombinant expression construct encoding a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC4-R receptor, wherein each mammalian cell expresses the melanocortin receptor encoded by the recombinant expression construct comprising the cell, and a fifth mammalian cell culture comprising a primary eukaryotic cell culture derived from a tissue in an animal expressing a mammalian melanocortin receptor that is the MC5-R receptor;
- (b) contacting each of the cells of the panel with an agonist or antagonistof the mammalian melanocortin receptor in an amount sufficient to produce a detectable metabolite in the cells that bind the agonist or antagonist, in the presence or absence of a test compound; and
- (c) detecting the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the panel in the presence of the test compound with the amount of the metabolite produced in each cell in the absence of each test compound.

FIG. 1A

TCCTGACAA GACT						CTG GGT Leu Gly	50
CCT CTC AAC TCC Ser Leu ABn Ser 15							98
CCA GAG CCT TGG Ser Glu Pro Trp 30	TGC CTG	TAT GTG Tyr Val 35	TCC ATC Ser Ile	CCA GAT Pro Asp 40	GGC CTC Gly Leu	TTC CTC Phe Leu	146
AGC CTA GGG CTG Ser Leu Gly Leu 45	GTG AGT Val Ser	Leu Val	GAG AAT Glu Asn	GTG CTG Val Leu 55	GTT GTG Val Val	ATA GCC Ile Ala 60	194
ATC ACC AAA AAC Ile Thr Lys Asn	CGC AAC Arg Asn 65	CTG CAC	TCG CCC Ser Pro 70	ATG TAT Met Tyr	TAC TTC Tyr Phe	ATC TGC Ile Cys 75	242
rgc CTG GCC CTG Cys Leu Ala Leu 80	Ser Asp	CTG ATG	GTA AGT Val Ser 85	GTC AGC Val Ser	ATC GTG Ile Val 90	CTG GAG Leu Glu	290
ACT ACT ATC ATC Thr Thr Ile Ile 95	CTG CTG	CTG GAG Leu Glu 100	Val Gly	ATC CTG	GTG GCC Val Ala 105	AGA GTG Arg Val	338
GCT TTG GTG CAG Ala Leu Val Glr 110	CAG CTG	GAC AAC Asp Asn 115	CTC ATT	GAC GTG Asp Val 120	CTC ATC	TGT GGC Cys Gly	386
TCC ATG GTG TCC Ser Met Val Sei 125	AGT CTC Ser Lev 130	Cys Phe	CTG GGC	ATC ATT Ile Ile 135	GCT ATA Ala Ile	GAC CGC Asp Arg 140	434
TAC ATC TCC ATC Tyr Ile Ser Ile	Phe Ty:	GCG CTG	CGT TAT Arg Tyr 150	His Ser	ATC GTG	ACG CTG Thr Leu 155	482
CCC AGA GCA CG Pro Arg Ala Arg	g Arg Ala	r GTC GTG 1 Val Val	GGC ATC	TGG ATG	GTC AGC Val Ser 170	Ile Val	530

FIG. 1B

CC	AGC	ACC	CTC	TTT.	ATC	ACC	TAC	TAC	DAA	CAC	ACA	GCC	GTT	CIG	CIC	578
er	Ser	Thr 175	Leu	Phe	Ile	Thr	Tyr 180	Tyr	Γλa	His	Thr	Ala 185	Val	Leu	Leu	
rgc	CTC	GTC	ACT	TTC	TTT	CTA	GCC	ATG	CTG	GCA	CTC	ATG	GCG	ATT	CTG	626
:ys	Leu	Val	Thr	Phe	Phe	Leu	Ala	Met	Leu	Ala	Leu	Met	Ala	Ile	Leu	
•	190					195					200					
TAT	GCC	CAC	ATG	TTC	ACG	AGA	GCG	TGC	CAG	CAC	GTC	CAG	GGC	ATT	GCC	674
yr	Ala	His	Met	Phe		Arg	Ala	Сув	Gln		Val	Gln	gly	Ile		
205					210					215					220	
LAG	CTC	CAC	AAA	AGG	CGG	CGG	TCC	ATC	CGC	CAA	GGC	TTC	TGC	CTC	AAG	722
3ln	Leu	His	Lys		Arg	Arg	Ser	Ile		Gln	Gly	Phe	Сув		Lys	-
				225					230					235		
3GT	GCT	GCC	ACC	CTT	ACT	ATC	CTT	CTG	GGG	ATT	TTC	TTC	CTG	TGC	TGG	770
Эly	Ala	Ala			Thr	Ile	Leu			Ile	Phe	Phe			Trp	
			240					245					250			
GGC	ccc	TTC	TTC	CTG	CAT	CTC	TTG	CTC	ATC	GTC	CTC	TGC	CCT	CAG	CAC	818
Gly	Pro			Leu	Kis	Leu			Ile	Val	Leu			Gln	His	
		255					260					265				
ccc	ACC	TGC	AGC	TGC	ATC	TTC	AAG	AAC	TTC	AAC	CTC	TTC	CTC	CTC	CTC	866
Pro		_	Ser	Сув	Ile			Asn	Phe	Asn			Leu	Leu	Leu	
	270					275					280	:				
ATC	GTC	CTC	AGC	TCC	ACT	GTT	GAC	ccc	CTC	ATC	TAT	GCI	TTC	CGC	AGC	914
Ile	Val	Leu	Ser	Ser			qaA	Pro	Leu			Ala	Phe	Arg	Ser	
285					290					295					300	
CAG	GAG	CIC	: CGC	DTA	ACA	CTC	AAG	GAG	GTG	CTG	CTG	TGC	TCC	TGG		959
Gln	Glu	Lev	ı Arg			Leu	Lys	Glu			Leu	Cys	Ser			
				305					310)				315	i	
TG#	TCAG	BAGG	GCGC	TGGG	ICA G	IAGGG	TGAC	A G1	GATA	TCC	GTG	GCC1	rgca	TCTG	TGAGAC	1019
CAC	AGGT	CACT	CATO	CCT	ec 1	OTAD?	TCC	T, TI	CTC	raago	GTC	CGACI	AGGA	TGAG	CTTTAA	1079
															CTCACC	
													2		<i>L</i> AGGGTC	
AG	ACCA	CAGG	CTC	CTGA	AGA (CTT	ACC	rc T	ccc	ACCTI	A CAG	GGCA	ACTC	CTGC	CTCAAGC	
C																1260

FIG. 2A

ccca	CATG	TG C	CCGC	CCTC	IA AI	GGAG	IGGCT	. CIG	AGAA	CGA	CITI	TAA	LAC G	CAGA	AAAD	A 60
agct	CCAT	TC 1	rrccc	AGAC	C TO	AGCG	CAGO	cci	raacc	CAG	GAAG	BGAG	GA C	IACAG	IAGGC	C 120
AGGA	CGGT	ec i	AGAGG	TGTC	AA DE	atgi	CCTC	GGA	ACCI	DAD	CAGO	CAGCC	ac c	AGGG	AAGA	3 180
GCAG	GGAG	igg J	AGCTG	AGGA	c cz	GGCT	TGGI	TGI	GAGA	ATC	CCTG	BAGCO	CA G	GCGG	TTGA:	T 240
GCCA	.GGAG	GT C	TCTG	GACT	ra ac	TGGG	CCAT	GCC	TGGG	CTG	ACCI	GTCC	AG C	CAGG	GAGA	3 300
GGTG	TGAG	igg (CAGAT	CTGG	G GG	TGCC	CAGA	TGG	IAAGG	AGG	CAGG	CATO	agg g	BACAC	CCAA	3 360
GCCC	ccra	IGC #	AGCAC	CATC	a ac	TAAG	CAGO	ACA	CCTC	GAG	GGGZ	LADA	cr e	TGGG	GACC.	T 420
GGAG	GCCT	CC 1	AACGA	CTCC	T TO	CTGC	TTCC	TGC	ACAG	GAC			T GT			473
GGA Gly 5	TCC Ser	CAG Gln	AGA Arg	AGA Arg	CTT Leu 10	CTG Leu	GGC Gly	TCC Ser	CTC Leu	AAC Asn 15	TCC Ser	ACC Thr	CCC Pro	ACA Thr	GCC Ala 20	521
ATC Ile	CCC Pro	CAG Gln	CTG Leu	GGG Gly 25	CTG Leu	GCT Ala	GCC Ala	AAC Asn	CAG Gln 30	ACA Thr	GGA Gly	GCC Ala	CGG Arg	TGC Cys 35	CTG Leu	569
GAG Glu	GTG Val	TCC Ser	ATC Ile 40	TCT Ser	GAC Asp	GGG Gly	CTC Leu	TTC Phe 45	CTC Leu	AGC Ser	CTG Leu	GGG Gly	CTG Leu 50	GTG Val	AGC Ser	617
TTG Leu	GTG Val	GAG Glu S5	AAC Asn	GCG Ala	CTG Leu	GTG Val	GTG Val 60	GCC Ala	ACC Thr	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	AAG Lys 65	AAC Asn	CGG Arg	AAC Asn	665
			CCC Pro													713
CTG Leu 85	CTG Leu	GTG Val	AGC Ser	GCG	ACG Thr 90	AAC Asn	GTG Val	CTG Leu	GAG Glu	ACG Thr 95	GCC Ala	GTC Val	ATC Ile	CTC Leu	CTG Leu 100	761
CTG Leu	GAG Glu	GCC Ala	GGT Gly	GCA Ala 105	CTG Leu	GTG Val	ĢCC Ala	Arg	GCT Ala 110	GCG Ala	GTG Val	CTG Leu	CAG Gln	CAG Gln 115	CTG Leu	809
OAD qaA	AAT Asn	GTC Val	ATT Ile 120	GAC Asp	GTG Val	ATC Ile	ACC Thr	TGC Cys 125	AGC Ser	TCC Ser	ATG Met	CTG Leu	TCC Ser 130	AGC Ser	CTC Leu	857
TGC Cyb	TTC Phe	CTG Leu 135	GGC Gly	GCC Ala	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	GTG Val 140	Asp	CGC	TAC Tyr	ATC	TCC Ser 145	ATC Ile	TTC Phe	TAC Tyr	905
Ala	CTG Leu	Arg	TAC	His	Ser	Ile	Val	Thr	Leu	Pro	Arg	Ala	CCG Pro	CGA Arg	GCC Ala	953

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FIG. 2B

GTT Val 165	GCG Ala	GCC Ala	ATC	TGG Trp	GTG Val 170	GCC Ala	AGT Ser	GTC Val	GTC Val	TTC Phe 175	AGC Ser	ACG Thr	CTC Leu	TTC Phe	ATC Ile 180	1001
GCC Ala	TAC Tyr	TAC Tyr	GAC Asp	CAC His 185	GTG Val	GCC Ala	GTC Val	CTG Leu	CTG Leu 190	TGC Cys	CTC Leu	GTG Val	GTC Val	TTC Phe 195	TTC Phe	1049
CTG Leu	GCT Ala	ATG Met	CTG Leu 200	GTG Val	CTC Leu	ATG Met	GCC Ala	GTG Val 205	CTG Leu	TAC Tyr	GTC Val	CAC His	ATG Met 210	CTG Leu	GCC Ala	1097
CGG Arg	GCC Ala	TGC Cys 215	CAG Gln	CAC His	GCC Ala	CAG Gln	GGC Gly 220	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	CGG Arg	CTC Leu	CAC His 225	AAG Lys	AGG Arg	CAG Gln	1145
CGC Arg	CCG Pro 230	GTC Val	CAC His	CAG Gln	GGC Gly	TTT Phe 235	GGC Gly	CTT Leu	AAA Lys	GGC Gly	GCT Ala 240	GTC Val	ACC Thr	CTC Leu	ACC Thr	1193
ATC Ile 245	CTG Leu	CTG Leu	GGC	ATT	TTC Phe 250	TTC Phe	CTC Leu	TGC Cys	TGG Trp	GGC Gly 255	CCC Pro	TTC Phe	TTC Phe	CTG Leu	CAT His 260	1241
CTC Leu	ACA Thr	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	GTC Val 265	CTC Leu	TGC Cys	CCC Pro	GAG Glu	CAC His 270	CCC Pro	ACG Thr	TGC Cys	GGC Gly	TGC Cys 275	ATC Ile	1289
TTC Phe	AAG Lys	AAC Asn	TTC Phe 280	AAC Asn	CTC Leu	TTT Phe	CTC Leu	GCC Ala 285	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	ATC Ile	TGC Cys	AAT Asn 290	GCC Ala	ATC Ile	1337
ATC Ile	GAC Asp	CCC Pro 295	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr	GCC Ala	TTC Phe 300	CAC His	AGC Ser	CAG Gln	GAG Glu	CTC Leu 305	CGC Arg	AGG Arg	ACG Thr	1385
				CTG Leu					TGA	3CGC(GGT (3CAC(GCGC	rt		1432
TAA	3TGT	CT (3GGC1	DADA	A DE	GTG	GTGA:	TAT	rgrg	STCT	GGT	rccr	ere :	rgaco	CTGGG	1492
CAG	TTCC	TA (CCTC	CTG	T C	ecca:	rrig:	r cai	AAGA	TADE	GGA	CTÁA	ATG I	ATCT	TGAAA	1552
GTG	TTGA:	AGC (3CGG1	ACCC	rr c	rggg	CAGG	3 AG	GGT	CCTG	CAA	AACT	CCA (GGCA(GACTT	1612
CTC	ACCA	3CA (TCG:	rggg	AA C											1622

FIG. 3A

ACAA	CACI	TT #	ATATA	TATI	T T	AATA!	ATGI	' AAC	IGGG1	ACA	AAGG	TGCC	AT '	PTTGT	TACA	09 7
GGAT	ATAC	.CG 1	CTAC	TGGT	A D	\GCC1	GGGC	TT	TAGI	CTA	TCTC	TCAT	CA (BAATA	LACAT	120
CGTG	TTAC	CC F	TAGG	ITAAI	T CI	CATO	ACCC	GCC	CCCI	CCA	CCCI	TCGA	GT (CTCC	ATGT	180
CATT	CCAC	AC 1	CTAT	CATCO	A CC	TGTA	TGCA	TA1	AGCT	CCA	CATA	TAAG	TG	AGAAC	TOTAL	240
GTAT	TTGA	CT 1	rccro	TTTC	T G	attd.	TTTC	: ACI	TTGA	AATA	TGGC	CTCC	AC '	TTCC	TCCA?	300
GTTG	CIGO	AA A	AGA	ATGA	c C1	TATI	CLLI	TTC	ATAG	CTG	GGG	GTAC	TC (CATTO	TGTA	360
ATGT	ACCA	CA 1	TTCI	TTAT	c c	TTCA	CCCA	TTO	AADA	CAC	TTAC	ADTT	TT (CCATA	TCTT:	420
GCTA	TTGT	CA (TAGI	GCTG	ic a	TAAA	CATA	CAT	CTGC	DDA	CTCC	TTCI	'AA'	FATA C	TADI	480
TATA	TTTT	AT C	GAGA	ADADA	T AC	agti	CITA	GCC	AGTG	TGC	TGT	TATI	TC '	ragto	TACT	540
GCAA	CTAA	TA 1	rcro	KTATA	C TC	CCTI	TAGG	TG	TTGG	ADA	TTT	ACTI	'AG	ATCTO	CAGC	600
AGTG	CTAC	AA C	ADAAE	LAAAG	A TO	CTGA	AGAA	TC	LATCA	Lagt	TTCC	GTGA	AG '	CAAC	TCCA	660
GTAA	CATC	ec c	GCCI	TAAC	C AC	CAAGO	'AGGA	(GA)		: Lys					C TCG	714
TAT Tyr	GAA Glu	AAC Asn 10	ATC Ile	AAC Asn	AAC Asn	ACA Thr	GCA Ala 15	AGA Arg	TAA nsA	AAT Asn	TCC Ser	GAC Asp 20	TGT Cys	CCT Pro	CGT Arg	762
GTG Val	GTT Val 25	TTG Leu	CCG Pro	GAG Glu	GAG Glu	ATA Ile 30	TTT Phe	TTC Phe	ACA Thr	ATT Ile	TCC Ser 35	ATT Ile	GTT Val	GGA Gly	GTT Val	810
TTG Leu 40	GAG Glu	AAT Asn	CTG Leu	ATC Ile	GTC Val 45	CTG Leu	CTG Leu	GCT Ala	GTG Val	TTC Phe 50	AAG Lys	AAT Asn	AAG Lys	TAA naA	CTC Leu 55	858
														GAT Asp 70		906
CTG Leu	GGC Gly	AGC Ser	CTA Leu 75	TAT Tyr	AAG Lys	ATC Ile	TTG Leu	GAA Glu 80	AAT Asn	ATC Ile	CTG Leu	ATC Ile	ATA Ile 85	TTG Leu	AGA Arg	954
														GCC Ala		1002
GAC Asp	ATC Ile 105	ATC Ile	gac Asp	TCC Ser	CTG Leu	TTT Phe 110	GTC Val	CTC Leu	TCC Ser	CTG Leu	CTT Leu 115	gly gc	TCC	ATC Ile	TTC Phe	1050

FIG. 3B

	CTG Leu															1098
	CGG															1146
	GTC Val														ATC Ile	1194
	TCC Ser															1242
	ATG Met 185															1290
	CGA Arg															1338
	GGG															13,86
TGG Trp	GCC Ala	CCC	TTT Phe 235	GTG Val	CTT Leu	CAT His	GTC Val	CTC Leu 240	TTG Leu	ATG Met	ACA Thr	TTC Phe	TGC Cys 245	CCA Pro	AGT Ser	1434
Asn	CCC	Tyr 250	Сув	Ala	Сув	Tyr	Met 255	Ser	Leu	Phe	Gln	Val 260	Asn	Gly	Met	1482
Leu	ATC Ile 265	Met	Сув	Asn	Ala	Val 270	Ile	qaA	Pro	Phe	11e 275	Tyr	Ala	Phe	Arg	1530
	CCA Pro															1578
1.	TGG Trp		DTAA	GCT	GATC	CCTG	GT T	DATI	AATC	C AT	GGGA	ATAA 	CGT	TGCC	AAG	1634
ATG TTG ATA	GATG TAGG CAAA CACC	CAA GGC GTA CAA	ggat Aact TTAG TCTA	Gacc Ctat Gtac Gtaa	CA C TT G AA A AA C	CAGC TGAC AGTA AGCA	TDAT ADDT ATTA AATA	G TT C AG G GT A AA	TCTG ATAA TTGC TTCA	ATAA EDAA ATTA EDDBA	TGT. CTT.	TGGC AGTA ATGA TGGG	CAG AAA CAA CTA	GAAC GAAG ATGC AGGC	TCCCTA AGTCTA GATAGA ATTACT AAAGAC GGCCAT	1694 1754 1814 1874 1934 1994
	AGCC															2012

FIG. 4A

GGGG	CCAC	AAE	AGTTO	CTG	T TO	CADA	CAG	L AGI	ATCT:	rcag	CAAC	JAACT	rac i	LDAA	AAGAAA	60
AGAI	TCTC	GA (GAATO	CAATO	CA AC	TTTC	CTG	CAI	AGTTO	CAG	TAAC	GTT	cr (TCT	DTDAAT	120
CACA	CAGO	BAA A	AG AT	M AF								lu As				168
			AGA Arg													216
		Phe	TTC Phe													264
			GCT Ala													312
			TGC Cys													360
AAG Lys	ATT Ile	TTG Leu	GAA Glu 80	AAC Asn	GTT Val	CTG Leu	ATC Ile	ATG Met 85	TTC Phe	AAA Lys	AAC Asn	ATG Met	GGT Gly 90	TAC Tyr	CTC Leu	408
GAG Glu	CCT Pro	CGA Arg 95	GGC Gly	AGT Ser	TTT Phe	GAA Glu	AGC Ser 100	ACA Thr	GCA Ala	GAT Asp	gat Asp	GTG Val 105	GTG Val	gac Asp	TCC Ser	456
CTG Leu	TTC Phe 110	ATC Ile	CTC Leu	TCC Ser	CTT Leu	CTC Leu 115	GGC Gly	TCC Ser	ATC Ile	TGC Cys	AGC Ser 120	CTG Leu	TCT Ser	GTG Val	ATT Ile	504
			CGC Arg													552
ATC Ile	ATG Met	ACC Thr	CCC	GCA Ala 145	CCG Pro	TGC Cys	CCT Pro	CGT Arg	CAT His 150	CTG Leu	ACG Thr	GTC Val	CTC Leu	TGG Trp 155	GCA Ala	600
GGC Gly	TGC Cys	ACA Thr	GGC Gly 160	AGT Ser	GGC Gly	ATT Ile	ACC Thr	ATC Ile 165	GTG Val	ACC Thr	TTC Phe	TCC Ser	CAT His 170	CAC His	GTC Val	648
CCC Pro	ACA Thr	GTG Val 175	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	TTC Phe	ACA Thr	GCG Ala 180	CTG Leu	TTC Phe	CCG Pro	CTG Leu	ATG Met 185	CTG Leu	GCC Ala	TTC Phe	696
ATC Ile	CTG Leu 190	TGC	CTC Leu	TAC Tyr	GTG Val	CAC His 195	ATG Met	TTC Phe	CTG Leu	CTG Leu	GCC Ala 200	CGC Arg	TCC Ser	CAC His	ACC Thr	744
AGG	AGG Arg	ACC	CCC Pro	TCC Ser	CTT	Pro	AAA Lys	GCC Ala	Asn	ATG Met	Arg	GGG Gly	GCC Ala	GTC Val	ACA Thr	792

FIG. 4B

CTG	ACT	GTC	CIG	CTC	GGG	GTC	TTC	ATT	TTC	TGT	TGG	GCA	CCC	TIT	GTC	840
Leu	Thr	Val	Leu	Leu 225	Gly	Val	Phe	Ile	Phe 230	Сув	Trp	Ala	Pro	Phe 235	Val	
					ATG Met											888
			-		TTC Phe											936
					TTC Phe											984
			-		ATG Met 290								TAG	aatgi	ATT .	1033
GGT	CCI	BAT 1	ATT1	GAG	CC A	CAGG	BATA:	r ac	rgtci	AGGG	ACA	3AGT	AGC (GTGA	CAGACC	1093
AAC	AACA	CTA (GAC.	r											•	1108

FIG. 5A

3GCT	LATE	CT	TAGO	AACC	:G G1	CTTO	GGTC	GGC	adtai	GAA	GAG	CCAC	BAG A	AGAG	AGAGG	3	60
ICA G	AGCG	ac i	/GGGG	atg/	G AC	AGGG	TGG1	CAC	OTDA	TGC	ACTO	ATTO	TT (DADE	CGCA	A .	120
AGGA	aagi	TT 1	TTC:	TOTA	C TO	CAAC	CTCC	: ccc	TCCI	ccc	CCGT	TTC	cr (TGG	AAAD/	2	180
TAAA	ATCI	AG A	CTG	ACAC	C A	CCAC	'AAGA	GA#	GCAC	CTA	GAAC	AAGI	TT 1	TTT	TTCC	2 .	240
AGCA	GCTI	rac 1	CAGO	ACCC	T GO	AGG	GCTG	CAC	CCGC	BAAC	TGGT	reces	CC (ATA	CC	;	297
			TCC Ser														345
CTC Leu	TCC Ser	CAG Gln	CAC His 20	CCT Pro	GCA Ala	GCC Ala	CCC Pro	TCT Ser 25	GCC Ala	AGC Ser	AAC Asn	CGG Arg	AGT Ser 30	GGC Gly	AGT Ser		393
GGG Gly	TTC Phe	TGC Cys 35	GAG Glu	CAG Gln	GTT Val	TTC Phe	ATC Ile 40	AAG Lys	CCA Pro	GAG Glu	GTC Val	TTC Phe 45	CTG Leu	GCA Ala	CTG Leu	•	441
			AGT Ser												GTG Val		489.
AGG Arg 65	AAC Asn	GGC Gly	AAC Asn	CTG Leu	CAC His 70	TCC Ser	CCC Pro	ATG Met	TAC Tyr	TTC Phe 75	TTC Phe	CTG Leu	CTG Leu	AGC Ser	CTG Leu 80	!	537
CTG Leu	CAG Gln	GCC Ala	GAC Asp	ATG Met 85	CTG Leu	GTG Val	AGC Ser	CTG Leu	TCC Ser 90	AAC Asn	TCC Ser	CTG Leu	GAG Glu	ACC Thr 95	ATC Ile	!	585
			GTT Val 100														633
			ATG Met													,	681
			ATC Ile														729
			TAT Tyr														777
			TTG Leu														82 5
GTG Val	ATG Met	Phe	ATC Ile	Val	Tyr	TCC Ser	Glu	Ser	Lys	Met	Val	Ile	GTG Val	Сув	CTC Leu		873

FIG. 5B

				Phe											921
				TTC Phe										CTG Leu	969
				GGG Gly											1017
				ACC Thr 245											1065
				CAC His											1113
				TAC Tyr										ATC Ile	1161
				GTC Val										CTG Leu	1209
				ACC										ATG Met 320	1257
	GTG Val			GAAC	CCC	CGAG	gagg'	TG T	TCCA	cecc	T AG	CCAA	JAGA		1306
GAA	AAGC	TAA	GCTC	AGGT	ga g	ACAC	AGAA	g gg							1338

FIG. 6A

AGCT	TCCG.	AG A	GGCA	acca	DT A	TGAG	CATG	TGC	GCAC	AGA	TTCG	TCTC	CC A	ATGG	CATGG	60
CAGC	TTCA	ag g	AAAA	TTAT	т тт	CAAD	AGAC	TTG	AATG	CAT	AAGA	AATT	AG T	TAAA	GCAGA	120
agtg.	AGAA	CA A	AAAD	GCAA	A GA	GCAG	ACTO	TTI	CAAC	TGA	GAAT	TAAD	AT T	TTGA	AGCCC	180
AAGA	TTT	AA A	GTGA	TGAT	TA D	TAGA	GTCG	TAC	CTAA	AAG	AGAC	AAAT	AA C	TCCA	TGTCA	240
AGCT	CTGG	AC T	TGTG	ACAT	T TA	CTCA	CAGO	AGG	CATG	GCA	ATTT	TAGC	CT C	ACAA	CTTTC	300
AGAC	agat.	AA A	GACT	TGGA	G GA	AATA	ACTG	AGA	CGAC	TCC	CTGA	.CCCA	.GG A	CGTT	'AAATC	360
AATT	CAGG	gg g	ACAC	TGGA	A TI	CTCC	TGCC	AGC	Met	Val	AAC	TCC Ser	ACC Thr	CAC	CGT	414
GGG Gly	ATG Met	CAC His 10	ACT Thr	TCT Ser	CTG Leu	CAC His	CTC Leu 15	TGG Trp	AAC Asn	CGC Arg	AGC Ser	AGT Ser 20	TAC Tyr	AGA Arg	CTG Leu	462
CAC His	AGC Ser 25	Asn	GCC Ala	AGT Ser	GAG Glu	TCC Ser 30	CTT Leu	GGA Gly	AAA Lys	GGC GJy	TAC Tyr 35	TCT Ser	GAT Asp	GGA Gly	GGG Gly	510
TGC Cys 40	TAC Tyr	GAG Glu	CAA Gln	CTT Leu	TTT Phe 45	GTC Val	TCT Ser	CCT Pro	GAG Glu	GTG Val 50	TTT Phe	GTG Val	ACT Thr	CTG Leu	GGT Gly 55	558
GTG Val	ATC Ile	AGC Ser	TTG Leu	TTG Leu 60	GAG Glu	AAT Asn	ATC Ile	TTA Leu	GTG Val 65	ATT Ile	GTG Val	GCA Ala	ATA Ile	GCC Ala 70	AAG Lys	606
AAC Asn	AAG Lys	AAT Asn	CIG Leu 75	CAT His	TCA Ser	CCC Pro	ATG Met	TAC Tyr 80	TTT Phe	TTC Phe	ATC 11e	TGC Cys	AGC Ser 85	TTG Leu	GCT Ala	654
GTG Val	GCT Ala	GAT Asp 90	ATG Met	CTG Leu	GTG Val	AGC Ser	GTT Val 95	TCA Ser	AAT Asn	GGA Gly	TCA Ser	GAA Glu 100	ACC Thr	ATT Ile	ATC Ile	702
ATC Ile	ACC Thr 105	CTA Leu	TTA Leu	aac asn	AGT Ser	ACA Thr 110	GAT Asp	ACG Thr	GAT Asp	GCA Ala	CAG Gln 115	AGT Ser	TTC Phe	ACA Thr	GTG Val	750
AAT Asn 120	ATT Ile	TAD QBA	AAT Asn	GTC Val	ATT Ile 125	GAC Asp	TCG Ser	GTG Val	ATC Ile	TGT Cys 130	AGC Ser	TCC Ser	TTG Leu	CTT Leu	GCA Ala 135	798
TCC Ser	ATT Ile	TGC Cys	AGC Ser	CTG Leu 140	Leu	TCA Ser	ATT	GCA Ala	GTG Val 145	GAC Asp	AGG Arg	TAC	TTT Phe	ACT Thr 150	ATC Ile	846
TTC Phe	TAT Tyr	GCT Ala	CTC Leu 155	Gln	TAC	CAT His	AAC Asn	ATT Ile 160	Met	ACA Thr	GTT Val	AAG Lys	CGG Arg 165	GTT Val	GGG	894
ATC Ile	Ser	Ile	Ser	Сув	Ile	Trp	GCA Ala 175	Ala	TGC	ACG Thr	GTT Val	TCA Ser 180	Gly	ATT	TTG Leu	942

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FIG. 6B

TTC Phe	Ile 185	ATT Ile	TAC	TCA Ser	GAT Asp	AGT Ser 190	AGT Ser	GCT Ala	GTC Val	ATC Ile	ATC Ile 195	TGC Cys	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	ACC Thr	990
			ACC Thr													1038
			GÇC Ala													1086
			ATC Ile 235													1134
			ATT Ile													1182
			TTC Phe													1230
			CAC His													1278
			CCT Pro													1326
			GAG Glu 315													1374
			AGA Arg		TAAJ	ATGGO	BGA (CAGAC	CACC	GC AJ	\TAT!	\GGA.	CAT	rccat	DAAT	1429
AGA	TIT	mc 1	ACTCI	TAC	C T	CCT	IAATI	A TTC	TAC	TCT	GCA	CAGO	TT ?	CTC	TCCGT	1489
GTA	3GGTZ	ACT (GTT	SAGA?	T AT	CAT	rgrg1	LAA 1	ATTT!	AAGC	CTA?	GATT	TT 1	TAAT	AAADA	1549
AAA:	rgcco	CAG 1	rcrcı	rgta:	T A	rttc	CAATO	TC	ATGC1	PACT	TTT	TGG	CA 1	LAAAI	ATATGA	1609
ATC:	ratg:	TA 7	ragg:	rtoti	AG G	CACTO	TGG!	TIT	racaj	AAA	GAAJ	LAGT	CT 1	[ATT	LAAA GC	1669
TT																1671

FIG. 7A

			TCC Ser												GCC Ala	48
TCA Ser	GAG Glu	GAT Asp	GGC Gly 20	ATT	TTA Leu	GGA Gly	TCA Ser	AAT Asn 25	GTC Val	AAG Lys	AAC Asn	AAG Lys	TCT Ser 30	TTG Leu	GCC Ala	96
			ATG Met													144
			TTA Leu												AAC Asn	192
			CAC His													240
GCC Ala	GAC Asp	ATG Met	CTG Leu	GTG Val 85	Ser	ATG Met	TCC Ser	AAT Asn	GCC Ala 90	TGG Trp	GAG Glu	ACT Thr	GTC Val	ACC Thr 95	ATA Ile	288
TAC Tyr	TTG Leu	CTA Leu	AAT Asn 100	TAA naA	AAA Lys	CAC His	CTG Leu	GTG Val 105	ATA Ile	GCC Ala	GAC Asp	ACC Thr	TTT Phe 110	GTG Val	CGA Arg	336
CAC His	ATC Ile	GAC Asp 115	AAC Asn	GTG Val	TTC Phe	GAC Asp	TCC Ser 120	ATG Met	ATC Ile	TGC Cys	ATC Ile	TCT Ser 125	GTG Val	GTG Val	GCC Ala	384
TCG Ser	ATG Met 130	TGC Cys	AGT Ser	TTG Leu	CTG Leu	GCC Ala 135	ATT Ile	GCG Ala	GTG Val	GAT Asp	AGG Arg 140	TAC Tyr	ATC Ile	ACC	ATC Ile	432
TTC Phe 145	TAT Tyr	GCC Ala	TTG Leu	CGC Arg	TAC Tyr 150	CAC His	CAC His	ATC Ile	ATG Met	ACC Thr 155	GCG Ala	AGG Arg	CGC Arg	TCG Ser	GGG Gly 160	480
GTG Val	ATC Ile	ATC Ile	GCC Ala	TGC Cys 165	ATT Ile	TGG Trp	ACC Thr	TTC Phe	TGC Cys 170	ATA Ile	AGC Ser	TGC Cys	GGC Gly	ATT Ile 175	GTT Val	528
TTC Phe	ATC Ile	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr 180	TAT Tyr	GAG Glu	TCC Ser	AAG Lys	TAT Tyr 185	GTG Val	ATC Ile	ATT Ile	TGC Cys	CTC Leu 190	ATC Ile	TCC Ser	576
ATG Met	TTC Phe	TTC Phe 195	ACC Thr	ATG Met	CTG Leu	TTC Phe	TTC Phe 200	ATG Met	GTG Val	TCT Ser	CTG Leu	TAT Tyr 205	ATA Ile	CAC His	ATG Met	624
TTC Phe	CTC Leu 210	CTG Leu	GCC Ala	CGG Arg	AAC Asn	CAT His 215	GTC Val	AAG Lys	CGG Arg	ATA Ile	GCA Ala 220	GCT Ala	TCC Ser	CCC	AGA Arg	672
TAC	AAC Asn	TCC Ser	GTG Val	AGG Arg	CAA Gln	Arg	ACC Thr	AGC Ser	Met	AAG Lys	Gly	GCT Ala	ATT Ile	ACC Thr	CTC Leu	720

FIG. 7B

ACC Thr	ATG Met	CTA Leu	CTG Leu	GGG Gly 245	ATT Ile	Phe	ATT Ile	GTC Val	TGC Cys 250	TGG Trp	TCT Ser	Pro	TTC Phe	TTT Phe 255	CTT Leu	768
CAC His	CTT Leu	ATC Ile	TTA Leu 260	ATG Met	ATC Ile	TCC Ser	TGC Cys	CCT Pro 265	CAG Gln	AAC Asn	GTC Val	TAC Tyr	TGC Cys 270	TCT Ser	TGC Cys	816
			TAC Tyr													864
GTG Val	ATC Ile 290	GAT Asp	CCT Pro	CTC Leu	ATC Ile	TAC Tyr 295	GCC Ala	CTC Leu	CGC Arg	AGC Ser	CAA Gln 300	GAG Glu	ATG Met	CGG Arg	AGG Arg	912
ACC Thr 305	TTT Phe	AAG Lys	GAG Glu	ATC Ile	GTC Val 310	TGT Cys	TGT Cys	CAC His	GGA Gly	TTC Phe 315	CGG Arg	CGA Arg	CCT Pro	TGT Cys	AGG Arg 320	960
			GGG		TAA *				•							978

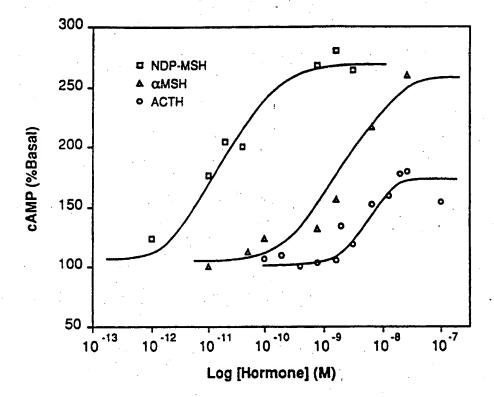
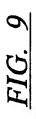
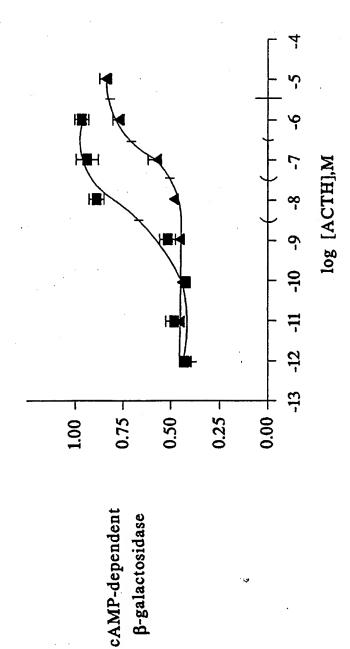


FIG. 8

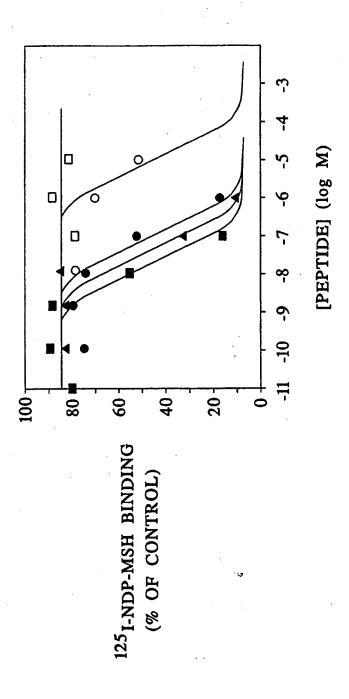




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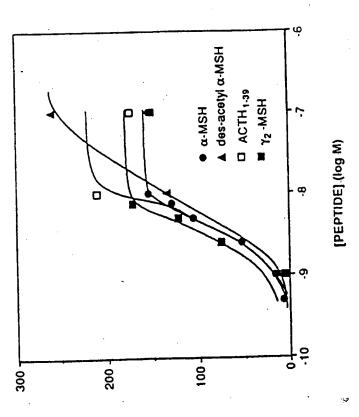
B-galactosidase





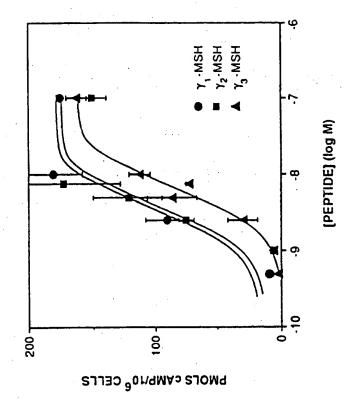
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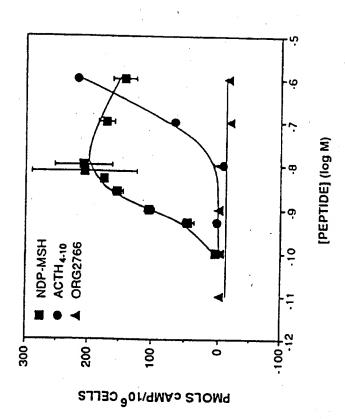




PMOLS CAMPINO 6 CELLS

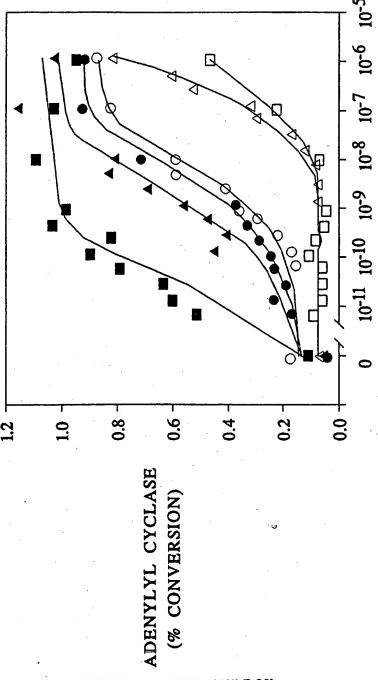




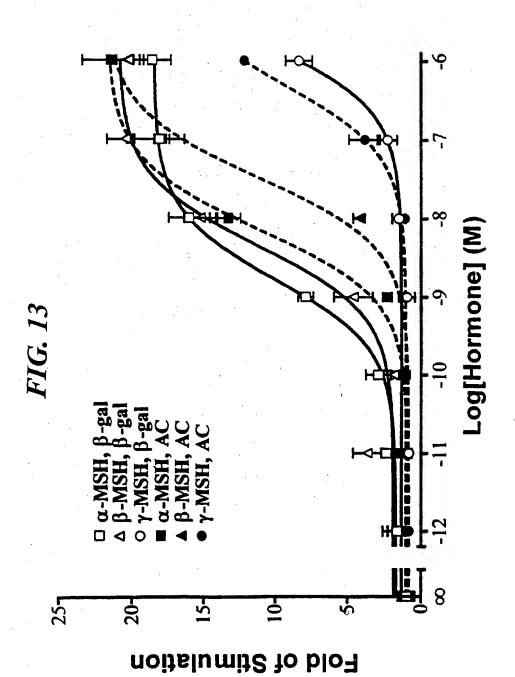


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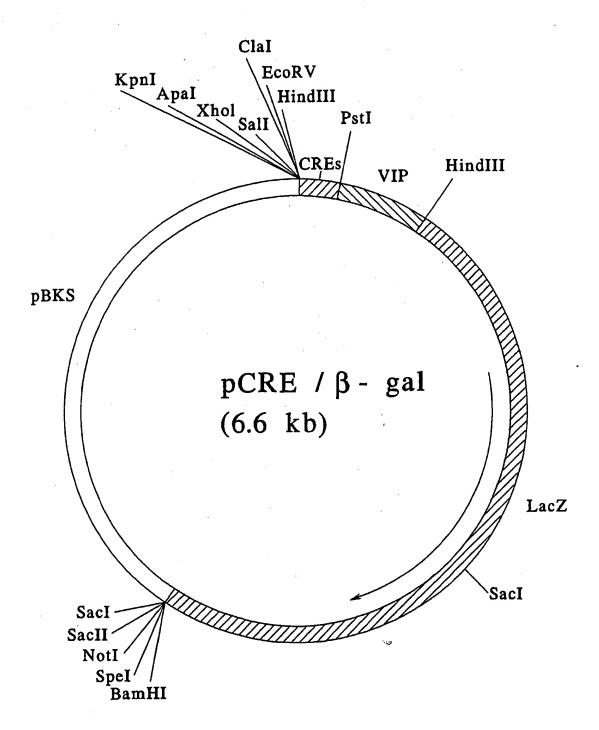


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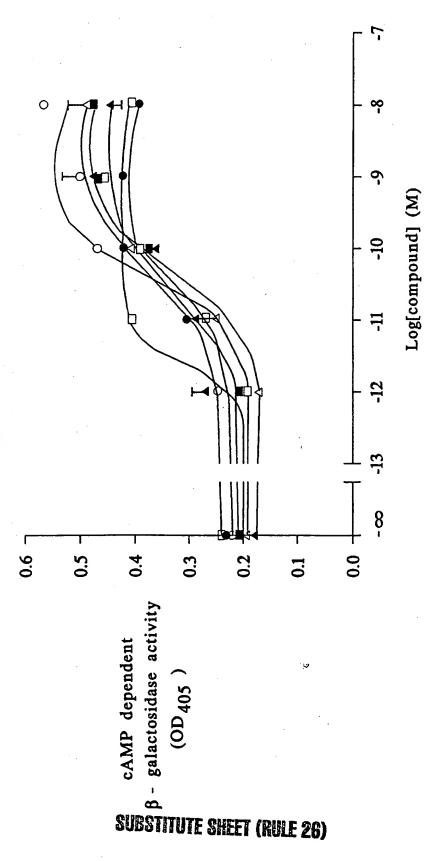
22 /

FIG. 14

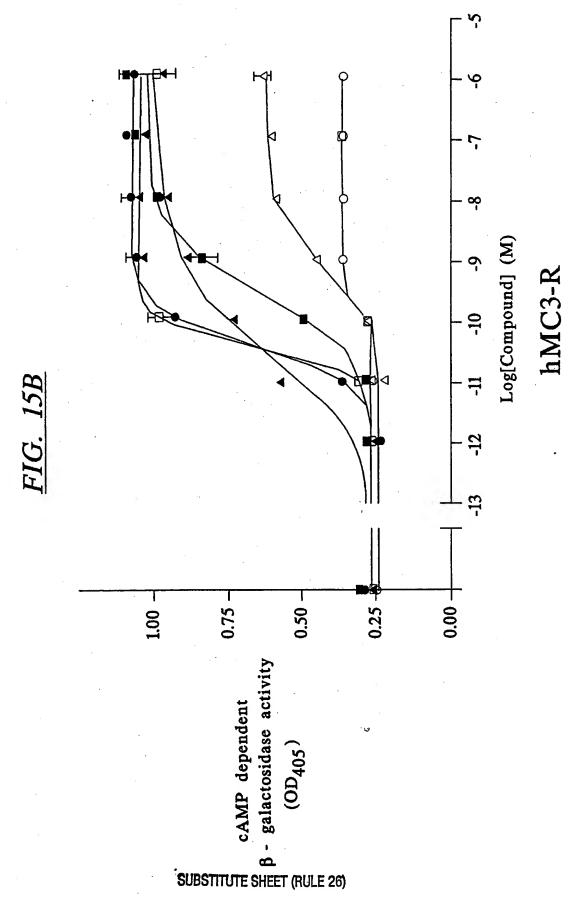


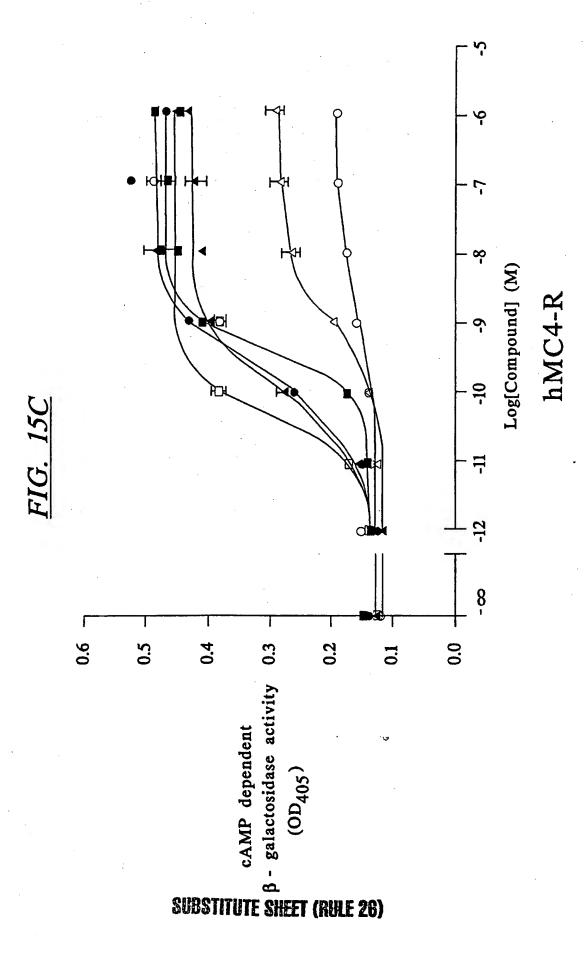
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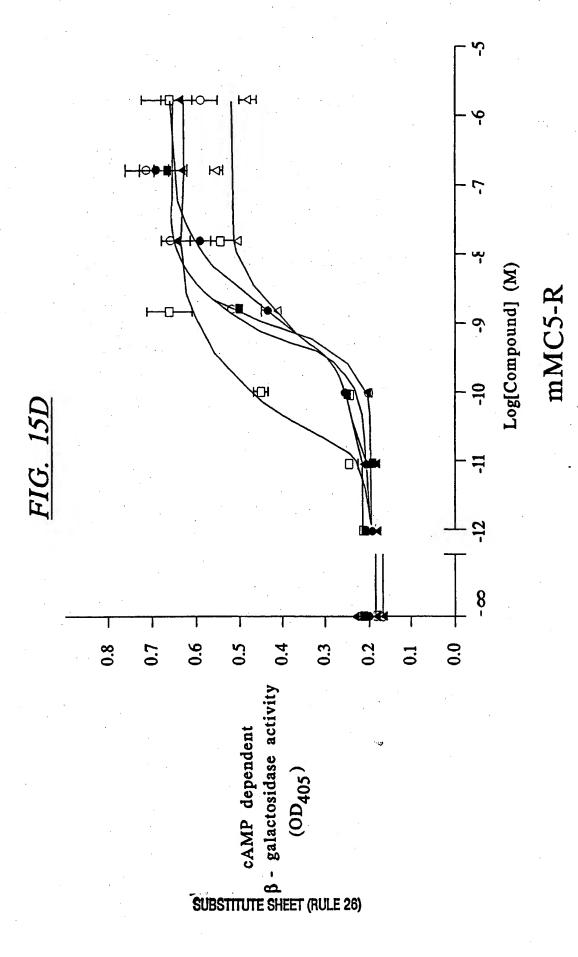


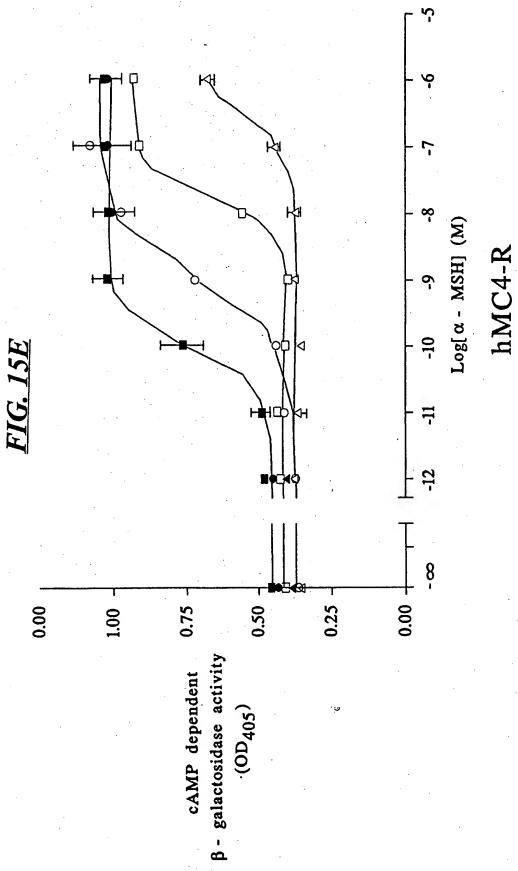


hMC1-R

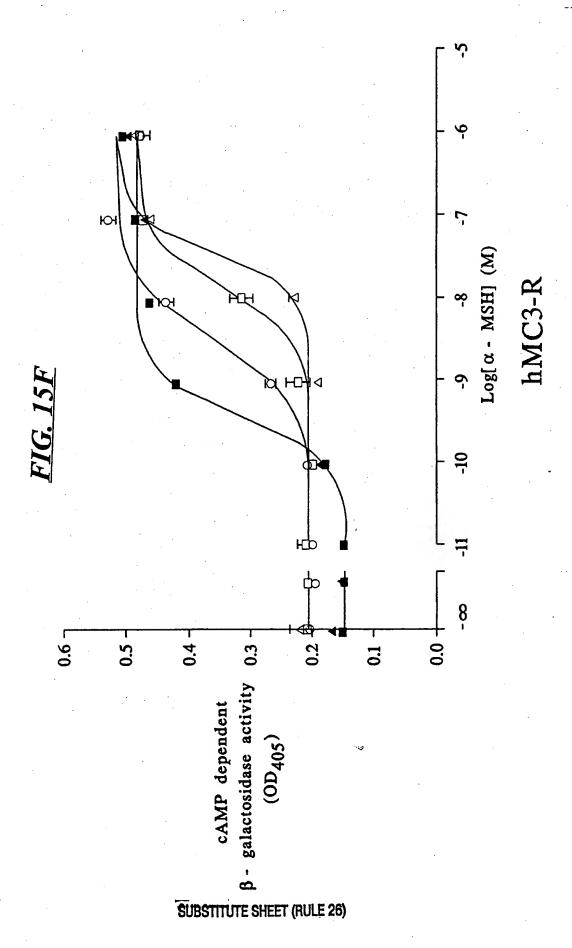


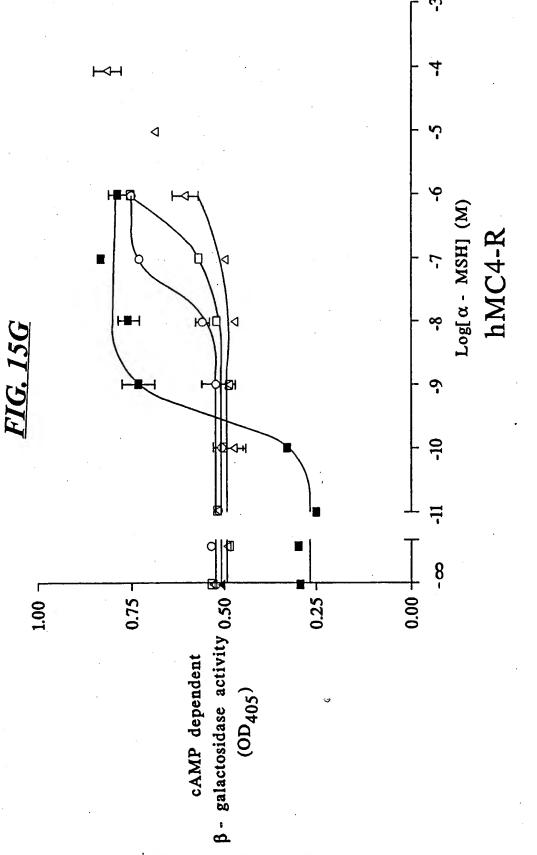




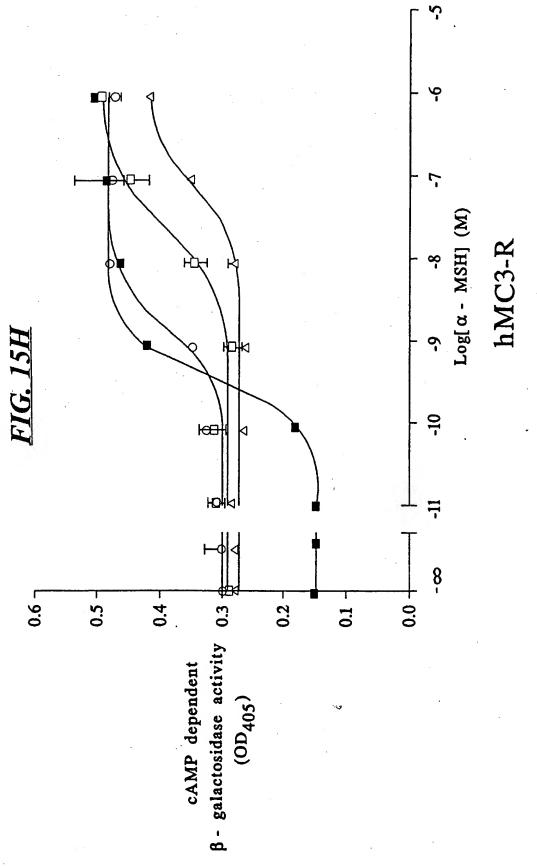


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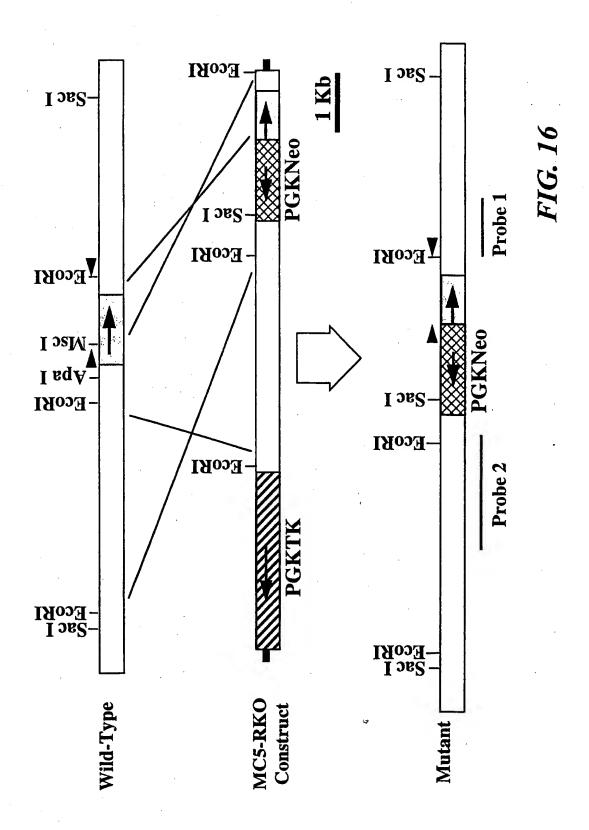




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33 /

55

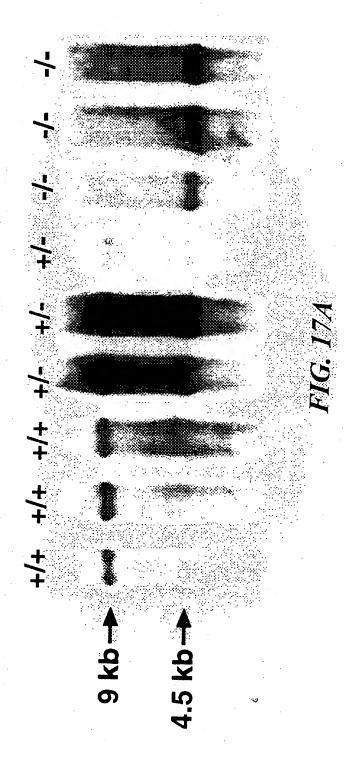
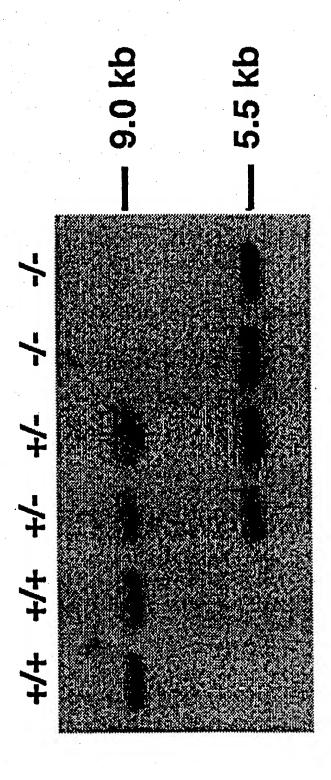


FIG. 17B



+/+ +/- -/- -/-

4kb→



FIG. 17C

Muscle Membrane NDP Binding

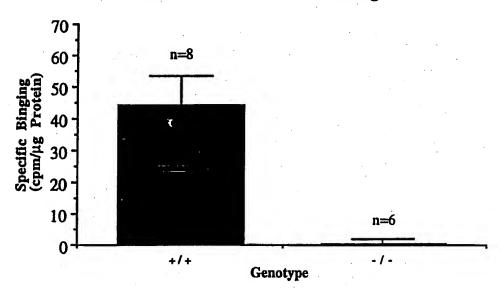
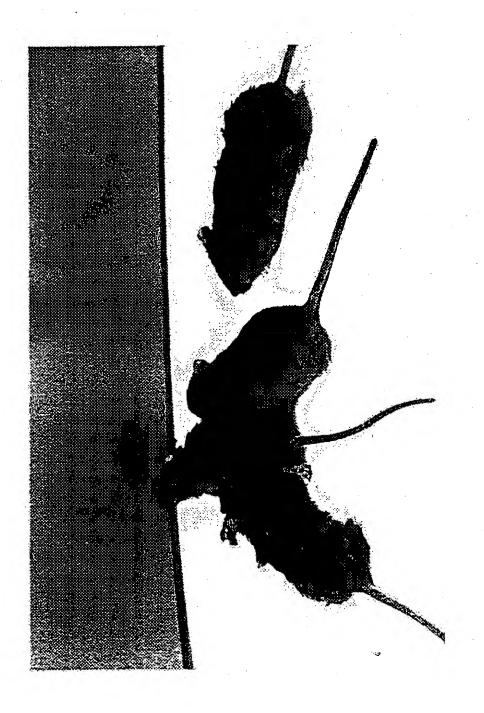
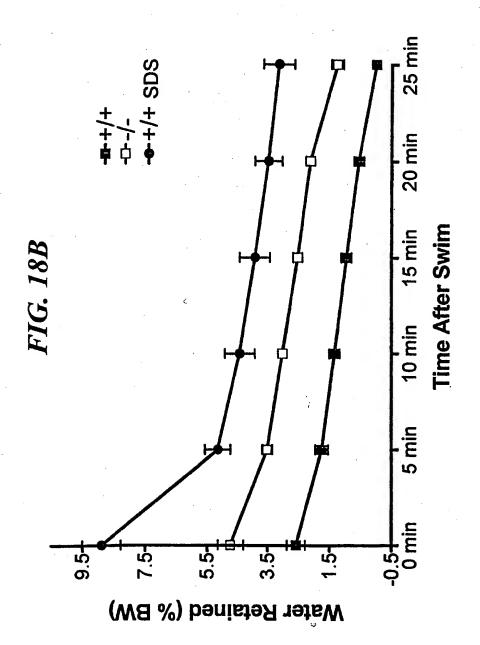
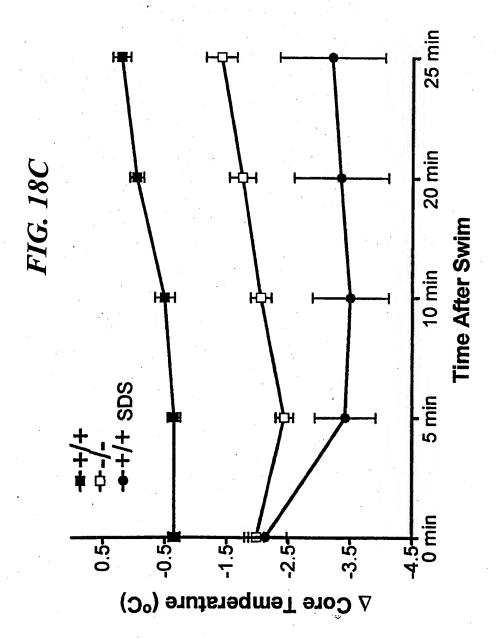


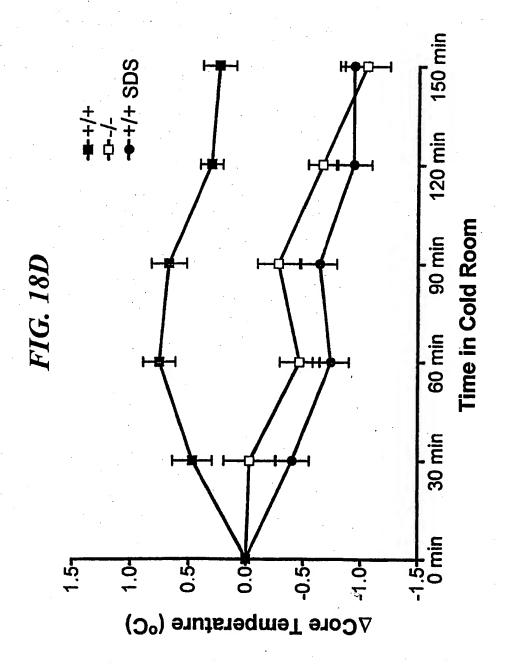
FIG. 17D



SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)







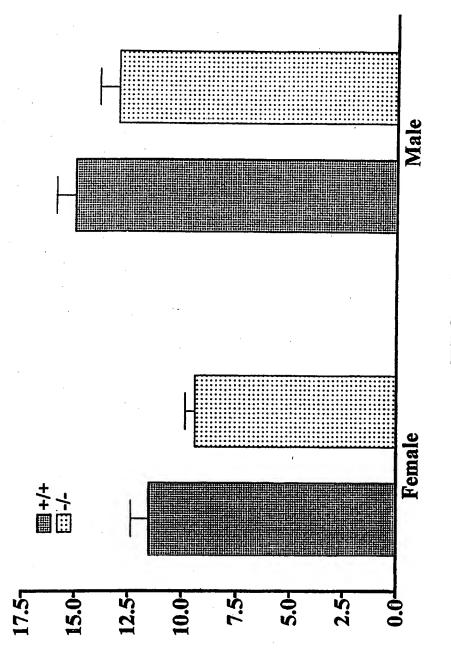


FIG. 18E

Hair Lipids 4 days after shampoo

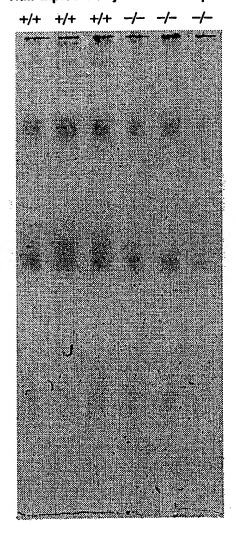


FIG. 18F

FIG. 19A

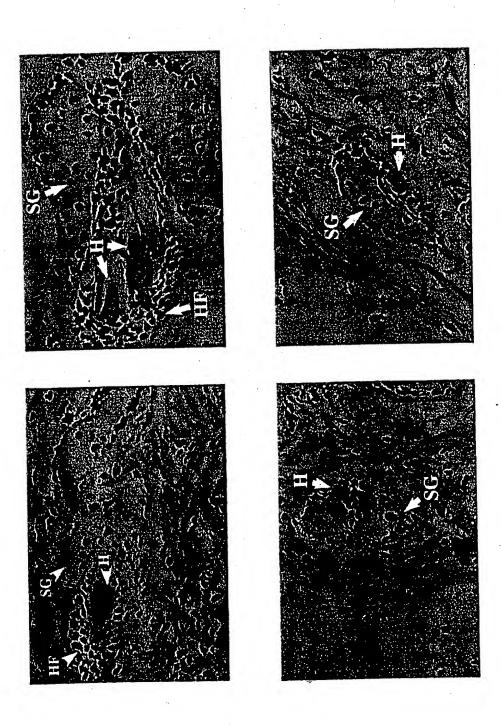
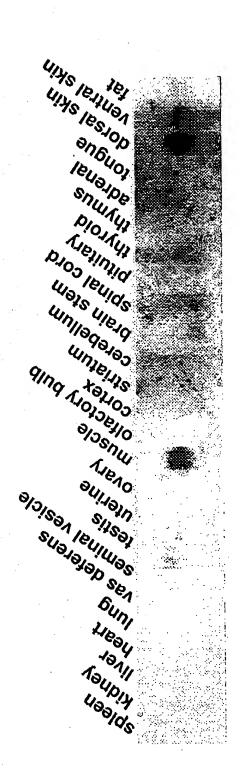
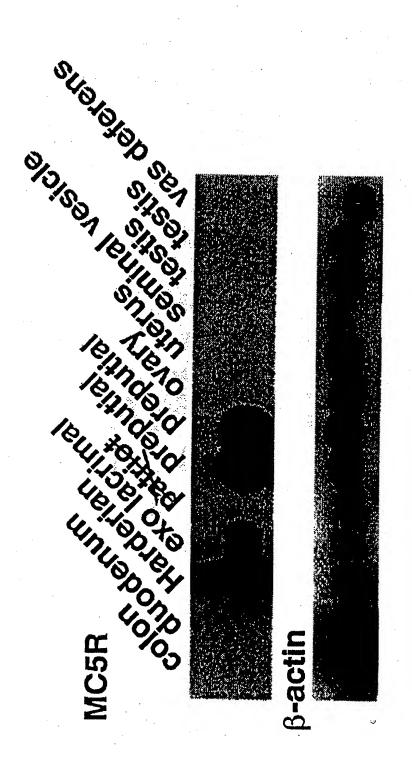


FIG.~19BMC5-R Expression in Mouse Tissues

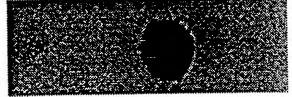






MC5-R coding

ekil eletopach thiald his

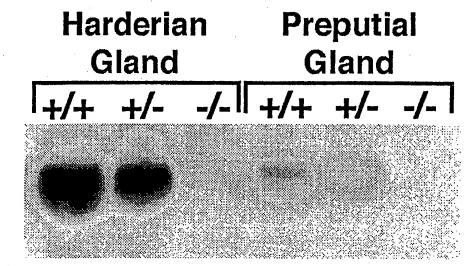


18S rRNA



FIG. 19D

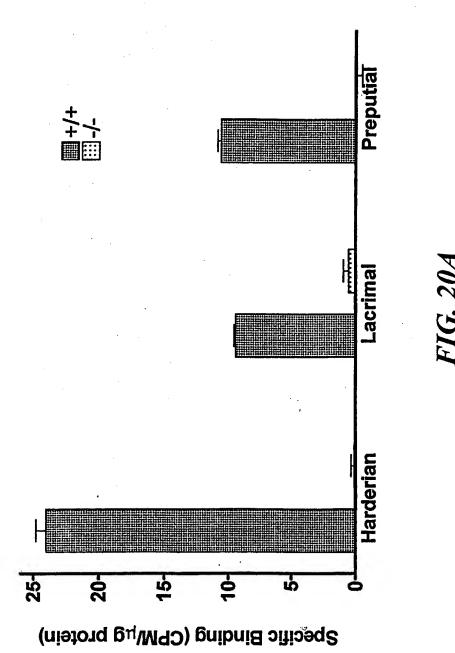
MC5R

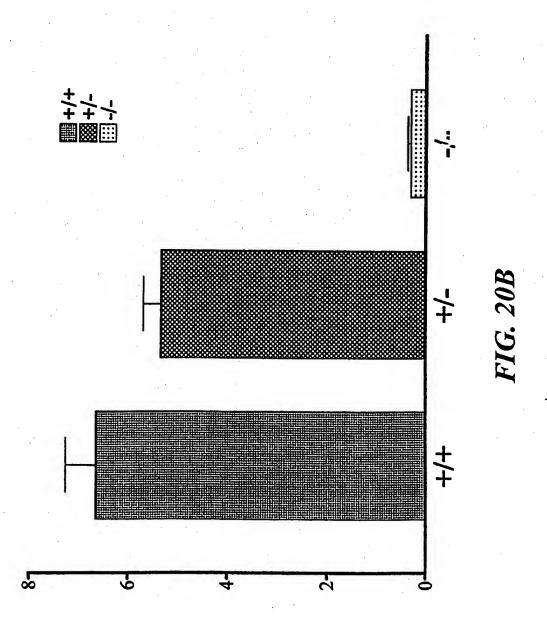


β-actin

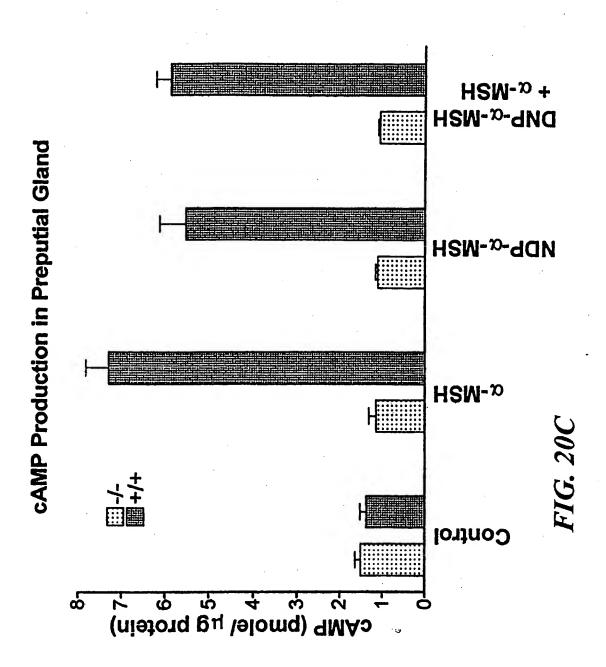


FIG. 19E

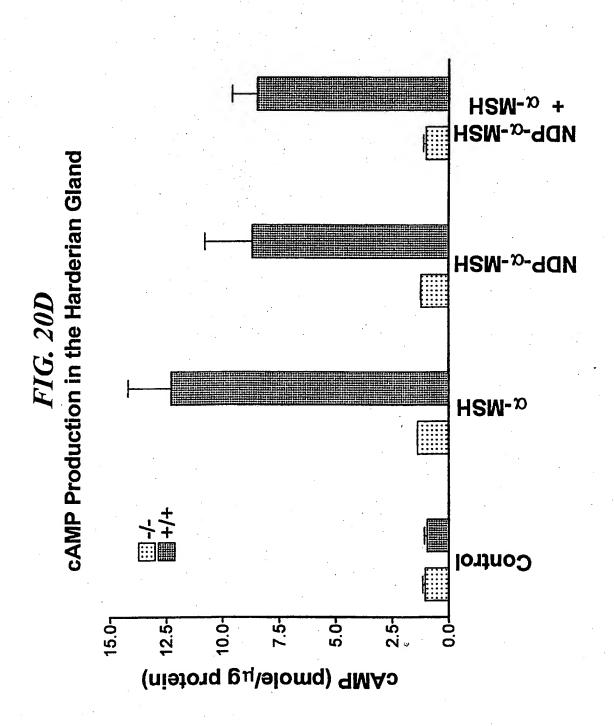


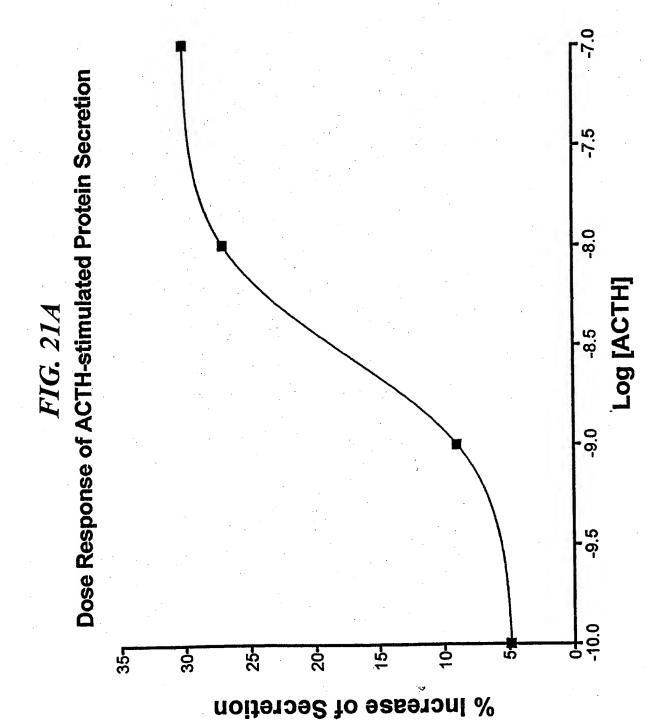


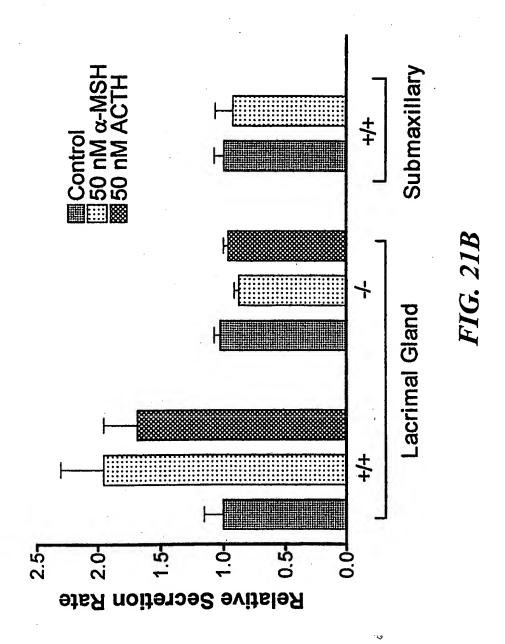
Specific Binding (cpm/µg Protein)



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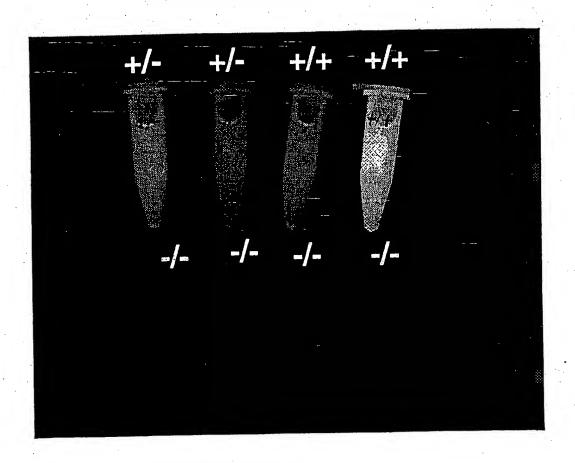
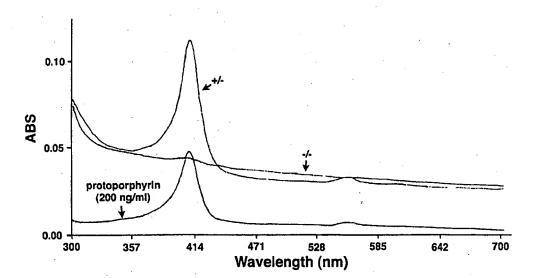


FIG. 22A

FIG. 22B

Absorbance Spectrum of Harderian Gland Extracts



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

in. ational Application No PCT/US 98/12098

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 C12N15/12 C12N15/00 A01K67/027 C07K14/72 C12N5/10 G01N33/566 G01N33/74 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) CO7K A01K IPC 6 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fleids searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X "TARGETED DISRUPTION OF HUSZAR D ET AL: 20,22, THE MELANOCORTIN-4 RECEPTOR RESULTS IN 24-27, **OBESITY IN MICE"** 29-32, CELL, 34,35 vol. 88, no. 1, 10 January 1997, pages 131-141, XP002058786 cited in the application Y see page 138, column 2, paragraph 2 - page 1-36 139, column 1, paragraph 3 Y LABBE O ET AL: "MOLECULAR CLONING OF A 21,28,33 MOUSE MELANOCORTIN 5 RECEPTOR GENE WIDELY **EXPRESSED IN PERIPHERAL TISSUES"** BIOCHEMISTRY, vol. 33, 1994, pages 4543-4549, XP002051985 cited in the application see the whole document X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International fliing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to fillna date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of theinternational search Date of mailing of the international search report 9 November 1998 24/11/1998 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Chambonnet, F Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Y	MOUNTJOY K G ET AL: "THE CLONING OF A FAMILY OF GENES THAT ENCODE THE MELANOCORTIN RECEPTORS" SCIENCE, vol. 257, 28 August 1992, pages 1248-1251, XP002051982 cited in the application see the whole document	1-20,22, 24-36				
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